

Partake of an ounce ... of prevention
The HPPC seeks community members who
want to help put an end to the AIDS crisis.
page 17

Centers hold
Updates on the Fallon
Building and Life Center.
pages 22 - 23



Weird cosmos
San Francisco Ballet
programs III and IV.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 11 • 12 March 1998

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 26 years

Da mayor talks with da B.A.R.

by Cynthia Laird

His office on the third floor of temporary City Hall is tastefully decorated, but what else would be expected of notoriously tasteful San Francisco Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.? One of the windows looks out over Van Ness Avenue and across the street at the permanent City Hall, enveloped in scaffolding and surrounded by huge, industrial cranes; it is expected to be open next year, despite huge cost overruns and a fire last month that damaged work on the dome.

Sitting in his office for an interview, he left the conference table to take a quick phone call. His end of the conversation went something like this: "If so-and-so does something, the city will react..." The call ended and Brown said, "That was Carole," referring to Assemblywoman Carole Migden, the powerful lesbian in Sacramento who represents San Francisco's 13th district. It's the seat Brown left to become mayor of the city that *Outlook*, a business magazine, ranked number one in the country in its January cover story that featured the mayor.

An interview with Brown is unlike almost any other; he is known for his extemporaneous style and when he sat down with the *Bay Area Reporter* for an exclusive interview Thursday, March 5, it was a free-for-all; no questions needed to be submitted in advance, which cannot be said for some high-ranking local leaders.

It was the first time Brown has talked with the local gay press since becoming mayor. He spoke candidly, and made it clear he is committed to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. It shows in various policies, laws, and, even more importantly, San Francisco's \$3.4 billion budget. While Brown's been regu-

page 24 ►

Rick Genarter

Sunshine starts breaking through

Ammiano calls for hearing of task force's proposals

by Cynthia Laird

The Accountability on Nonprofits Task Force convened by Supervisor Tom Ammiano has reached consensus on four areas related to opening up agencies that receive city funding, including the thorny matter of city representation on nonprofit boards. At the Monday, March 9 Board of Supervisors meeting, Ammiano commended task force members for their work and requested a hearing be held before the board's Finance Committee as soon as possible. The task force began its work last month and has now completed its task after three productive meetings, said the supervisor.

"I have my fingers crossed," Ammiano said of being able to draft legislation that will be approved. The 20-member task force included activists, nonprofit administrators, and nonprofit board members, some of whom

page 16 ►

MCC, MUMC differ on campaign to discourage Castro panhandling

by Mark Mardon

Castro Street and controversy are synonymous. Never was this more apparent than at the Thursday, March 5 meeting of Merchants of Upper Market and Castro (MUMC). There, business people met with opposition from the clergy over what to do about the neighborhood's ever-present

homeless people and panhandlers.

Almost unanimously, the merchants present favored spending \$1,000 on a campaign to discourage donations to street people. They hoped that posters and cards bearing the slogan "Create Change. Don't Hand It Out" will soon appear in every shop window and be passed out to every visitor. They wanted the trickle of money going to street people, and especially to "professional pan-

handlers," to dry up. They wanted homeless people to abandon doorways, stay out of people's way, stop hassling passers-by, and deposit their litter, urine, and feces elsewhere. They welcomed Mission Station Police Captain Greg Suhr's announcement that a third police officer, Jim Barron, would be added four days a week to the Castro beat.

Steve Adams of Sterling Bank and Trust said he was fed up with under-25 "punks who stand on the street, chase you down the street, and yell at you. They move all around the city."

As forcefully noted by MUMC Community Affairs Vice President Jeff Ward, who manages Does Your Father Know and heads up MUMC's Community Pride & Revital-

page 14 ►

Homeless panhandlers tell of 'life at the bottom' in the Castro

by Mark Mardon

Even as merchants in the Castro commercial district ready a campaign to discourage donations to street people, hoping thereby to rid the sidewalks of vagrants and panhandlers, a few spare-change solicitors in the vicinity expressed frustration at being mischaracterized and misunderstood.

"I'm not really homeless, I'm houseless," said Doug, 25, last Saturday afternoon. He stood beneath the awning of a Mexican food restaurant, keeping as dry as possible during one of the countless El Niño downpours he has weathered during his six-months as a Castro neighborhood "resident."

"I try to thrive in this community, and give back to the community," Doug explained. "I try to help people when I can. Like that little old lady, Rose, who walks real slow. I always

page 15 ►



Jane Philomeno/Cland

Drako John Flama: "Spange?"

INSIDE

BAR Talk	52
Classifieds	31
GLAAD	12
Mailstrom	7
Mister Marcus	48
Obituaries	29
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	50
Out There	38
Past Out	11
Personals	55
Sapphistication	10
Sports Complex	30

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A festive crowd featuring lots of cowhide turned out for the March 8 opening of the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society's new show, "Queer and Kinky Danger: Artists Relating to Leather/SM/Kink." The exhibit can be viewed Saturdays and Sundays, noon-5 p.m., through May 31, at the GLHS offices at 973 Market Street (fourth floor). Call the GLHS at (415) 777-5455 for more information.

Jurors in pit bull case fail to reach a verdict

Missing victim sought, feared harmed

by Mark Mardon

A mistrial was declared Wednesday, March 4 in the so-called pit bull trial, in which three young men were charged with felony assault and hate crimes. The case involved two gay men who prosecutors ar-

gued were victims of a homophobic bashing near the Church and Market intersection in December 1996. One of those men failed to appear for the trial, and is reported missing. District Attorney Terence Hallinan's office has initiated a search for the young man, hoping he has not come to any harm.

The alleged perpetrators in the case, who remain in custody pending retrial or posting of bail, were Justo Rivera, Eltro Nelson, and Randolph Rodrigues. Prosecution witnesses had testified the men used a pit bull dog as a weapon in a deliberate attack on John Paul Koolas and Thomas Mason. While Mason testified in the trial, Koolas vanished shortly before the proceedings began.

Jurors in the trial, after deliberating for more than a week, declared they were unable to reach a unanimous verdict.

"I'm very disappointed," said Assistant District Attorney Maria Bee, who prosecuted the case. She said her office would immediately retry the case. A new San Francisco Superior Court trial date has been set for Monday, April 6.

Bee told the *Bay Area Reporter* the jurors had been leaning toward "not guilty" verdicts in several major charges against the men, with only two or three holdouts keeping the defendants from being declared innocent. Earlier in their deliberations, the jury delivered "not guilty" verdicts in three minor charges.

"The sense among the jurors was that the whole incident was confusing," said Bee. "They also weren't convinced the witnesses actually saw what they said they saw. And there was some blaming of the victims going on. Some jurors asked themselves, 'What did these guys do to make this happen?'"

Bee added that in many cases, the jurors couldn't agree on the facts in the case. Because the incident involved many witnesses with many different vantage points, "it wasn't a neat package."

Bail for the three defendants, originally set at \$150,000 each, was reduced to \$10,000 each in the wake of the non-verdict. Bee said the lower bail may allow the defendants to be released from incarceration pending the outcome

of the new trial.

One witness for the prosecution expressed shock and disbelief at the hung jury, saying he certainly couldn't understand how the jury could have been leaning toward acquittal.

"I stood there and watched these men beat and attack Thomas Mason and this Koolas guy," the man said.

Where's the victim?

Ron Huberman, an investigator for the District Attorney's office, said he hopes Koolas will contact his office. Koolas has been reported missing, and Huberman fears he might have come to harm somewhere, in some way. "We're very concerned about his welfare," he said.

Prior to the trial, Koolas was presumed to have gone into hiding. According to Community United Against Violence, the young man had not wanted to endure the trial's psychological rigors. Bee said that while that might be true, it's also likely Koolas was "afraid of retribution" if he testified against his alleged attackers.

"Koolas may be terrified by the idea of testifying," agreed Huberman. "He suffered a very traumatic experience, and he may fear for his life."

Assuming Koolas is safe somewhere, but keeping out of sight, Huberman wants to assure him his office will do all in its power to protect him if he surfaces to confront his attackers in court. He urges Koolas to call him to at least discuss his concerns.

Koolas, whose friends call him "JP," is known to have been a frequent patron of the Polk Gulch on Polk Street.

Huberman said that without Koolas, the chances for a conviction in the retrial remain slim. "The defense was able to villainize him in his absence," he observed.

Bee said that while the best hopes for a conviction rest on Koolas, a guilty verdict may still be possible in the second trial because "I know what the defense will do." ▼

Investigator Ron Huberman urges Koolas, or anyone who knows his whereabouts, to call him at (415) 553-1756.

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Ammiano hearing prompts quick action

Agnos OKs higher payment for Section 8 housing vouchers

by Cynthia Laird

Effective immediately, Section 8 housing certificates and vouchers in San Francisco will be increased to more realistically reflect the high rent paid here; the waiver was signed March 7 by Art Agnos, secretary's representative with the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department. The waiver came just days after Supervisor Tom Ammiano held a hearing March 5 before the board's Housing and Neighborhood Services Committee to discuss two federal housing programs — Section 8 housing certificates and vouchers; and the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA) grants.

Agnos's waiver affects the Section 8 program, stated Joan Hall, HUD operations officer in a March 9 letter to Ammiano. The San Francisco Housing Authority, which administers the Section 8 program, was informed of the waiver by Hall's office that same day.

Ammiano, who's been working on the housing issues for several months, was extremely pleased to have some action taken so soon after Hall and other local officials testified at last week's hearing. She and representatives from the city's Redevelopment Agency, which administers the HOPWA program, acknowledged that skyrocketing rents in the city as well as a less than one percent vacancy rate have combined to make finding affordable housing next to impossible. Those in the Section 8 or HOPWA programs often face additional obstacles to finding housing, including the refusal of some landlords to accept the federally funded vouchers or certificates for a portion of the monthly rent. Ammiano is working on those issues, as well as closing a loophole in local law that allows both programs to

be exempt from the owner move-in eviction moratorium adopted last year by the board. Discrimination against people living with AIDS (PWA) is another hurdle many must overcome.

"I'm really pleased and respect Art Agnos for moving so quickly. I'm really happy I started this process," Ammiano told the B.A.R.

Last week, Hall told a packed hearing room that Agnos was considering making the change; the waiver he approved allows rents to be paid at 120 percent of the current fair market rent (FMR) level. That is a figure established by HUD for the metropolitan statistical area that includes San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties. The FMR is 40 percent of the mean rent and is presently out of date. Agnos also waived the restriction on application of the 120 percent FMR to permit this higher level of rent to be paid. Tenants will continue to pay 30 percent of their income, and these higher rents will not add to rental costs for the tenants.

The problem with the FMR, Ammiano and other agree, is that the low figure used to determine the subsidy amount makes it very difficult for a person to find housing and sometimes keeps people from qualifying for some apartments. With the waiver, tenants will get a higher subsidy, meaning they will have a wider range of places to search.

"It's a fairer estimate of rents here in San Francisco," Ammiano said when he announced the HUD change at Monday's supervisors meeting.

Under the new rent levels listed in Hall's letter, the following ceilings will apply: studios will go from \$603 to an allowable \$724; one bedroom units, from \$781 to an allowable \$937; two bedroom units, from \$987 to an allowable \$1,184; three bedroom units, from

\$1,354 to an allowable \$1,625; and four bedroom units, from \$1,432 to an allowable \$1,718.

"We hope that the increase in allowable rents will encourage more landlords to continue with this program, and encourage other landlords to accept tenants using Section 8 certificates and vouchers," Hall stated.

Ammiano said the waiver will also affect HOPWA subsidies as they, too are based on the FMR. Hall indicated in her letter that the city can request a higher payment directly from HUD and can seek authority for rental payments that exceed the 120 percent of the FMR.

Closing the loophole

Ammiano will continue to work with officials to get waivers from some HOPWA guidelines that prevent people from using those subsidies. Under the HOPWA program, roommates are not allowed, nor can people live in single room occupancy hotels (SRO). Additionally, HOPWA and Section 8 programs are both exempt from the city's rent control laws. "They can be kicked out

page 20 ►

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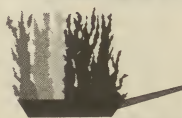
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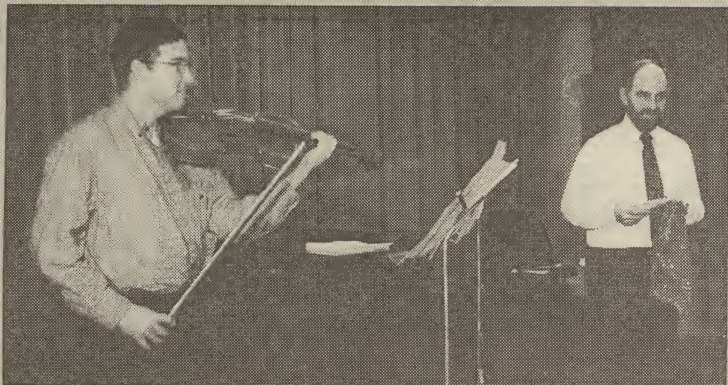
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Queer composers



Star Classics in Hayes Valley hosted a March 8 "Composers' Showcase," highlighting a program of music by members of the Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers. Seen here are tenor and composer Harry Bernstein (right) and violist Eric Enders performing *A Hole in the Pocket of the Universe* (1991) and *Viola* (1998). For more information about SGLC functions, call (415) 333-2755.

Janis Ian to host sixth LAVA awards ceremony next week

by Vicky Kolakowski

The sixth annual Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action (LAVA) awards ceremony next Saturday, March 21 at the Fairmont Hotel will be hosted by singer/songwriter Janis Ian.

LAVA event chair Maureen O'Leary is excited that Ian took time from her present tour for her new album, *Hunger*, to host the evening's festivities. "Janis is looking forward to meeting the LAVA audience," O'Leary said, "and she will perform one or two songs as well as deliver the keynote address."

This year three women are being honored with a LAVA award. Dianne Felix has been a leader in organizing the gay and lesbian Latino/a community for over 25 years. Felix is presently program director for Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, a neighborhood-based multi-gender or-

ganization offering services to both HIV-positive and -negative youth, including lesbians and bisexual women in the heart of San Francisco's Mission District.

Joyce Fulton has been a teacher, community leader and counselor for over 40 years. A former "Teacher of the Year" of San Mateo County, Fulton was co-founder and is presently co-chair of San Mateo county Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN), and serves on the board of Peninsula PFLAG.

Ellen Gavin founded Brava! for Women in the Arts and has been executive/artistic director for the past 11 years, and has been a long-time activist and arts community organizer. Gavin was one of the first women firefighters in the San Francisco Fire Department, which inspired her critically acclaimed play *The Roof's on Fire!*

The LAVA awards program is a fundraiser for "A Fund of Our Own," a charitable fund of the Bay

Area Career Women (BACW) that is administered by the Horizons Foundation. The fund has provided grants to numerous lesbian programs related to health, human services, legal rights, education, arts, and culture. Over \$194,000 has been disbursed by the fund over the past five years.

Last year's dinner, featuring comedienne Suzanne Westenhoefer and keynote speaker Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl, drew almost 550 attendees and raised over \$25,000. O'Leary hopes that this year's dinner will break the 600 mark in attendance. ▼

The sixth annual LAVA Awards dinner starts at 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 21 at the Fairmont Hotel, located at California and Mason Streets.

Tickets at \$125 per person may be reserved by calling JPD Communications at (510) 843-8048.

Gay bars hit in smoking crackdown

by Mike Salinas

More than a quarter of the San Francisco bars and restaurants that have been cited for violating the statewide ban on smoking since January 1 have been gay bars, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

As of Friday, February 6, inspectors had cited a total of 14 establishments over their inability or unwillingness to make customers comply with California's smoking ban. Of those 14, four have mostly gay clientele: Reflections on Polk Street, Trax on Haight Street, the San Francisco Eagle on Harrison Street, and The

Hole in the Wall on 7th Street. In all cases the owners were ordered to attend "administrative hearings" about complying with the new ban, according to Tom Rivard of the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

However, those owners and bartenders are not subject to further action or fines, Rivard said. Because the law only requires bar employees to request that customers put their cigarettes out, but not to force them to stop, the city will begin fining the patrons who continue to smoke at any bar that has been cited.

Rivard also said that he has received more than a half-dozen complaints from customers of the

Polk Street gay bars 'N Touch and the QT, and said it was likely that at least one of them faced getting a citation in the immediate future.

However, he said, inspectors are not specifically targeting gay bars in the latest round of crackdowns. "This is absolutely not something the city is doing," he said. "This is complaint-driven. My guess is that people in the gay community are more health-conscious — especially since there are a fair number of immune-compromised customers in gay bars — and they are making complaints."

"We're not going out looking for problems," he said. "We have plenty coming to us." ▼

Cable Car Awards struggle to stay on track

by Mark Mardon

For the first time since its inception 24 years ago, the Cable Car Awards ceremony, honoring achievements by leaders of the San Francisco queer community, will likely not take place this year, at least not at its usual scale or on its usual date.

The event, originally scheduled for March 28, has been put on hold due to illnesses in the

families of its co-chairs, Carlos Larranaga and Hydrie Downard. Larranaga's aunt suffered a stroke in January, and Downard's mother became ill and recently passed away, according to Larranaga.

"The two of us could not in good conscience dedicate the time necessary to put on the show," said Larranaga, who has played major roles in putting on the event for the past 10 years. "I felt it was not fair to put on a half-assed show."

The co-chairs had hired someone to put together this year's production, Larranaga said, "but there were problems with that." He did not elaborate.

Larranaga held out the possibility that a smaller awards production might be held later this year, but said the event's board of directors has yet to decide the matter.

"My goal now is to put on a large 25th anniversary show," Larranaga said. ▼

CARE council co-chairs taking calls about new services on SF cable show Tuesday

by Cynthia Laird

Residents who want to learn about the new integrated services for Ryan White CARE-funded HIV/AIDS programs can find the information this Tuesday, March 17 on the AIDS Update television program. The Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council co-chairs Tom Calvanese, Will Carter, and Diane Jones will join program host Paul Causey, executive director of AIDS Benefits Counselors, for the live broadcast on San Francisco cable channel 27. They will take calls from viewers and discuss the recently released request for proposal (RFP) that seeks to integrate many HIV/AIDS services offered in the city.

The RFP is the result of last summer's prioritization process; the council seeks to fund collaborations that integrate an array of HIV/AIDS services in the city. The RFPs will be reviewed beginning in early April, with final notifications being announced in early May. The contract is expected to begin between July and September for a 12-month period. There is close to \$6 million in CARE funds available in the RFP.

"The co-chairs will talk about the integrated CARE system," Causey told the B.A.R. Although the program is devoted to treatment issues, he said, the show's producers decided to deviate from that topic this month, given the significance of the new RFP.

The planning council has also committed to greater community outreach, and the program is an example of how it plans to use different media outlets to get information to people living with

HIV/AIDS.

The March 17 show will be rebroadcast three times. Causey said that last month's show received 11 calls; based on the industry stan-

dard for locally produced community cable programs, each call represented 1,000 viewers, meaning approximately 11,000 people tuned in. ▼

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Outreach events in San Diego, Sacramento, Inland Empire and Central Valley are underwritten by grants from Glaxo Wellcome and Walgreen Co.

Corrections

A story in the March 5 issue, "TG fights to join SFPD," incorrectly identified the pre-sex-change name of Christiana Daniela Rivas. Prior to having her name legally changed, she was Christopher Daniele Rivas. The article also stated Rivas had eye surgery to correct her vision. In fact, she uses special contact lenses.

Also, patients in a University of Pittsburgh study mentioned in the ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool article had a baseline of less than 5,000 viral HIV RNA.

The B.A.R. regrets the errors. ▼

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Sex to sixties

Isn't it funny that the people who most incessantly beat the drum of so-called "family values" and Victorian modesty have now prompted national networks to talk about sex more extensively and explicitly than the fiercest pro-sex advocates of Sex Panic! could possibly imagine? The sexually provocative rap songs that so many bluenoses found objectionable a few years ago were, comparatively speaking, "Mairzey Dotes" compared to the nonstop talk about oral sex and semen that's been broadcast into our homes for the last two months. Last year America was warned about the Internet Pedestrian who lurked in cyberspace, eager to discuss his distinguishing genital characteristics with a hapless child or two; this year the *Capital Gang* discusses the president's distinguishing genital characteristics in front of millions.

All this persistent blathering about who's getting screwed in Washington helps keep everyone's mind off who's getting screwed by Washington, but let's face it: the country can't really continue to pay the price for Kenneth Starr's penis envy much longer.

Every day the "independent council" (and never has there been a less appropriate name) barrels through his "duties" he behaves more and more like ... well, like *Pretty Woman* Julia Roberts, romping through pricey boutiques with someone else's credit card. The Lewinsky "scandal" has so far reportedly cost taxpayers \$4 million (that's not the cost for the whole "Whitewater" investigation, which is around \$40 million these days), and now the House committee that would presumably investigate Starr's impeachment recommendation has been granted an additional \$1.5 million in emergency funding. As Everett Dirksen said, "A million here, a million there, and pretty soon you're talking real money."

It's money that could — should — be used for something a lot more worthwhile. Everywhere you look, even in this "longest boom cycle in American history," there are

schoolchildren without books; patients without medicine; families without homes; senior citizens without heating oil; and so on and so on *ad nauseam*. They deserve those millions much more than Starr and his army of flying monkeys.

But as Barbara Ehrenreich points out in this issue of *The Progressive*, Clinton can blame himself that his past refusals to stand firmly against the far right have come back to bite him in the ass and/or distinguishing genital characteristics. She points out that "not only did he fail to challenge the Puritanism of the religious right, he gradually acceded to it, even wrapping himself, increasingly, in its tawdry banner." Those of us who thought we were voting for a draft-dodging, pot-smoking, queer-loving liberal in 1992 have to agree with her assessment.

"Asked about the draft-dodging," she writes, "he mumbled and waffled, thereby blowing the chance to say, 'Yes, and I not only dodged the draft, I also protested proudly against that hideous imperialist war, as so many other citizens of conscience did.' On the pot question, he reached a nadir of ambivalence — admitting simultaneously that he'd smoked it, that he hadn't inhaled it, and that he wished he'd ingested a toke or two after all. Why not say, 'Yeah, I tried it. Didn't we all? And what's the fuss? One of the wonderful legacies of the 1960s counterculture is that we now understand that marijuana is a harmless high, with none of the nasty side-effects of booze?'"

"Better yet, he could have challenged the 1960s-bashing head-on. That poor demonized decade was hardly the ten-year-long sex-and-drugs orgy of prurient right wing imaginings. It was, for those of you too young to have been there, the last time when great masses of Americans took their polity seriously enough to try to participate in it — by organizing, protesting, and gen-

erally doing the kinds of things that wide-awake citizens normally do. (Not that there's anything wrong with a little partying, too.)"

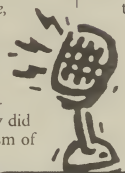
It's about time for the Clinton administration — and the rest of the Democrats — to realize that wrapping themselves in tawdry Puritanism will not help them create an attractive vision for American voters, and that it is necessary for them to stand for something the average person needs a lot more than lectures on chastity: Fairness.

Where are the candidates who will gladly argue for the principle of equality in all things? We need candidates who will point out that if it is really time to strike down affirmative action, it is also time to make sure people who break anti-discrimination laws face consequences — real consequences that are in proportion to the damage to victims. Candidates who will stand up for lesbian moms, gay kids, queer couples, and the HIV-positive homeless. Candidates who don't move back to embrace the '60s, but do move forward to embrace the millennium. We think such candidates could strike a chord with the population and do very well against the do-nothing Congress we have now (a Congress that can't confirm judges or ambassadors, but can confirm people's most cynical fears about our political system).

One last thing, speaking of the homeless. The current controversy over panhandling in the Castro is not going to be solved by anybody refusing to listen to anybody else. This difficult situation was largely created by discredited Reaganomics and will take some time to make noticeably better, and the task will be easier if everyone treats everyone else like human beings.

Remember the phrase "Fight AIDS, not people with AIDS?" In that same spirit, would like to suggest this: Fight homelessness, not people with homelessness.

Peace, man. ▼



Editorial

Jumping through hoops for HOPWA

by Mike Slivicki

The following letter was sent to Mayor Willie Brown:

I am a 37-year-old man living with AIDS in San Francisco. I am writing to you about the HOPWA subsidy program and HUD guidelines. As mayor, I hope you can intercede with HUD to expedite solutions to the problems facing me, and many other low income residents of San Francisco.

Prior to my diagnosis, I was employed full time and had many friends, activities, and hobbies. In my spare time I created collages and watercolors, and have had at least 18 shows in the San Francisco area.

I was diagnosed with AIDS in April 95. I enrolled in the CHIPS [Community Housing Information and Placement Service] program in October '95, as I was facing an uncertain future. I asked then when a subsidy might be available and was told "several months at least."

In November '97, I was notified that Catholic Charities would handle my HOPWA subsidy for \$781 per month. Since that time, I have found it impossible to find an adequate residence for several reasons.

1. Because of HUD guidelines, I am not allowed to pay the difference between my subsidy amount and the actual rental of the apartment. The reason given is that HUD does not want us to spend more than 30% of our income. As an adult, I believe it should be my right to spend 40% if I choose. I saw a one bedroom for \$900, the difference would be \$119. My storage locker is \$125, which would no longer be necessary. Many San Franciscans who make av-

erage incomes spend 40% on their residences. I also find it interesting that last year the rate was lowered by \$27. What is the logic behind that?

2. I found a garden studio with 700 square-feet that would have been ideal for \$795. But HUD guidelines will not let me pay more than \$603 for a studio. I can have a 425 square-foot one bedroom with no closets for \$795, but not the larger space for the same price. *There should be some flexibility in this.* The field inspector should make decisions on a case-by-case basis. If we want the space, why can't square-footage be a considered factor?

3. Landlords have no incentive to want to rent to us. People with a Section 8 certificate rarely have perfect credit reports and cannot afford multiple application fees.

What I have to offer is a story. My story is: landlords need to complete a lease approval form; the rental has to be approved by a field inspector; I don't have any credit references (but I have references from prior landlords); and, it will take at least a week for a landlord to receive money from HOPWA.

As mayor, I believe you have clout with the landlords of San Francisco. Perhaps you could offer some sort of tax break or credit? If not, since the state has a Lotto, could the city also have its own Lotto to subsidize housing for the low income? Perhaps you could contract out to realtors to place us? Los Angeles has benefit concerts to assist with AIDS programs, could San Francisco do the same to fund housing? What about the Presidio? It looks like a ghost town. I re-

alize that the city is not eager to have that area jeopardized by low income people bringing their low income problems. But how about selection based on an interview, or an application essay process?

Any funds raised on behalf of low income housing will not be usable until the HUD guidelines are made realistic. Landlords must be given an incentive. Field inspectors should be given flexibility on a case-by-case basis.

I need your office to lend credibility to my plight. Since 1995, there have been 5,000 people on the CHIPS waiting list, and up to this time only 450 have been placed with a HOPWA subsidy.

With the current AIDS treatments, my health has stabilized. I am ready to return to work and my creative pursuits. But I have waited two years for this program which is supposed to help get me reestablished. Instead, this program is forcing me to stay in a 200 square-foot studio, without an oven, bathtub, bathroom sink, or closet.

I'm not dying, but I'm not living, I am existing. I believe I have contributed to the rich cultural diversity of San Francisco, and I would like to do so again. If I go back to work now, I shall jeopardize the social programs I'm in. I feel like I'm in a Franz Kafka novel.

As your constituent, I hope some action can take place. My HOPWA subsidy expires on March 24, and I will be thrown back into the CHIPS waiting list for the next available subsidy. I am resigned to that fact.

I thank you taking the time to consider my letter. ▼



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Providing services under salaries

Growing up in tiny Lovelock, Nevada, I one day made the trip with my family to the Big City, Reno (nowhere near the present glutted, overgrown tangle since the '50s). Mom gave sister and me one whole silver dollar each, for our own to spend as we pleased, and we'd meet back in an hour at the designated place.

When we got back, Mom wondered, "What did you kids do with your dollar?" I told her I found a disheveled man walking down the street in the crowd, holding his arms out in front — obviously blind — and I gave him the whole dollar.

Mom was shocked: "You didn't give your whole dollar to a bum?" (The euphemism used then.)

I must've been under 12, but ever since, I have been a suck for "panhandlers" and a very easy mark for whoever needs a loan. I have "Easy touch" tattooed across my forehead with invisible ink (or neon), and they can usually see me coming from far off.

I would gladly give to organizations who "provide services" for SF's homeless (including those unfortunate enough to find the Castro), except when I read how "donations" become "salaries" and "rents," I'd rather give directly to the beggar without the middle person.

When Kennedy was shot, someone quoted, "If there's one thing we learn from a study of history, it's that we don't learn from a study of history." Ditto for a study of well-meaning "charities."

I advocate a grass-roots movement of spending a tiny quarter or so, every time approached. I used to think this would break a man on \$18,000 a year, but instead, like in the "Sorcerer's Apprentice," the coins magically replenish. Call it "budgeting for the poor."

How indeed do these greedy merchants and selfish citizens know that "pro panhandlers" get money in the Castro to spend on drugs in the Haight? If true, have them followed and apply laws already in place to get this "human garbage" off the streets!

Someone once told a panhandler to "get a job!" And the panhandler replied, "This is a job!" If we think by giving grassroots-style we will encourage the begging, picture yourself out there day after day in those (apparent) conditions, and try to imagine how many do it for joy — or the supposed "free ride."

As for true "pros," why not budget a lot more for a return to mental facilities/professionals monitoring those not taking their meds (forgetful, rebellious, whatever), and for non-bogus "treatment programs," not on paper alone to get big grants for big salaries and rent.

The Book of Mormon (I was one) says: "Suffer ye not that the beggar put up his petition to thee in vain." And discusses general panhandling in Mosiah 4:16 and following.

Treating these folks as humans rather than rushing by in abject horror and suspicion might go far toward "reforming" them also.

And I'm still sure that "bum" was really blind.

Tom Stoker
San Francisco

Drug company guinea pigs

Thank God for Allen Hext! ["Converging research: Hep C and HIV," Feb. 26] With the 20th Anniversary of the Summer of Love having come and gone, all God-fearing Americans were fretting the return of peace, love and compassion. Disregarding science and ethics, Hext states "research must go forward" to maximize pharmaceutical profit. With ACT UP Golden Gate behind the wheel of this death machine, good and moral Americans can rest assured that big bucks will win out.

With phony altruism and transparent humanity, Hext proclaims "the values that you think — they get thrown out the door." This must be the same door through which the discarded bodies of PWAs, having served their neutered roles as drug company guinea pigs, have been piling up thousands high. Hext, an animal rights supporter to boot, continues, "But when it comes to the survival of people, we need to take certain steps." One wonders if Hext, "Monkey Murderer" Jeff Getty, and the rest of the baboons at ACT UP Golden Gate, tired of watching reruns of *The Planet of the Apes*, have switched to *Triumph of the Will*?

The fact is, a pig liver machine will save no one's life. Most transplant recipients will die soon after due to a weakened immune system. Sure, AIDS deaths have decreased. Now folks die from toxic drug side effects: liver failure, heart enlargement, kidney failure. And again taxpayers are asked to foot the bill. How about getting Glaxo Wellcome to cough up some of the billions they have reaped off this health crisis turned into career opportunity?

Mario Caldato Jr.
San Francisco

[Editor's note: The real fact is that pig liver machines already have saved lives.]

AEF's dedicated "officials"

In her story about the AIDS Emergency Fund and Sonoma County AIDS activists working together to find funding to restore AEF grants in the county ["Sonoma community agrees to fund AEF, and vice versa," March 5] Lois Pearlman refers to AEF Vice President Ken Turner "and other AEF officials."

That's a proper use of the word "official" ("one who holds an office"), but it doesn't seem to do justice to Turner and his fellow AEF board members, all volunteers who have other jobs and busy lives in addition to their AEF responsibilities. The community needs to be reminded that it wasn't a group of well-paid bureaucrats or ASO employees that trekked to Sebastopol to see how they could help the local PWAs; it was dedicated volunteers, giving their own time and energy to make a difference.

Denis Wade
San Francisco

Break out the guillotine

We all owe a debt to the B.A.R. for exposing the financial atrocities committed by the SF AIDS Foundation, and to Supervisor Ammiano for the efforts to broaden the scope of the Sunshine Ordinance. But for many of us, the head-on fight to get SFAF to rectify its abuses is not moving fast enough and never will. The top staff at SFAF seems content to dismiss protests with whitewash or outright lies, and I for one am tired of playing polite verbal footsie with them. I think it's time to change our tactics. Specifically, I think SFAF's corporate supporters should hear from us about SFAF's negative public image and empty-headed responses.

The whole saga now reads like a replay of Watergate, in that SFAF has refused even to acknowledge its most blatant transgressions. We must now therefore approach SFAF from other angles, so as to more directly threaten the leeches who control it. Business, my ass! It's not right that we should be begging for basic democratic reforms at SFAF. Pat Christen and her spin doctors need to remember what happened to Marie Antoinette.

Randy Wellington
San Francisco

Go, girls!

Re: "Figure skating at SFAF" February 26.

Mike Salinas deserves a raise and a lifetime membership at EROS or anywhere else he wants! As for Eunice Azzani, Pat Christen, et. al., I have a bridge to sell you. You go girls — preferably as far away from the Bay Area as possible.

Thorton Kimes
San Francisco

An open letter to Pat Christen

Hey Pat! You're in business because you care about AIDS patients, right? Well, just keep your present salary, but donate two thirds of it to AIDS charities and take the tax write-off. You will find that you can still get by quite well alongside us mere mortals. And you'll feel good about yourself, too. And, for a reality check, spend at least one night in one of those hotels clients are referred to.

Bill Sheppard
San Francisco

When the castrato sings

America is once again considering going to war, yet, this is very good. For the health of American society, war is good, even requisite. The Freudian dream has come true: castrate the son to stop the Oedipal cycle of succession. This is Democracy American Style: "The Virtual Castration" (Criminal and sexual deviance as patho-obsessions; a virtual reality of discordant ideation).

Yet a society of castrati presents several problems: pragmatically, there is a decline in the birth rate; yet more importantly, American society goes through long periods of social meycism, the society stagnates, turning in on itself: the anti-social behavior of sadism. Here, war is very good for American society: it is where a "clean virtue" can be found, through the sacrifice of other. Other being not American. The effect? Skirts go up. Pussies get wet. American GLs go off *unclean* puritans, and return "Forgiven by God!"

War, as an *ethical sacrificial purge* is basic to American social health; the basis of a "pure" erotic that is the discordant erotic logos of the society. Here, the *copulative* of Kant has been convoluted, and has now become an inversion noted by Paul Virilio: Americans no longer "fear falling down" while historically have always "feared falling up!" At times this becomes absurd (as of late they have come to look and behave like marshmallows — ready to explode).

America would be a terrible place without repeated wars. Again. It is time.

Kevin O'Connor
New York, NY

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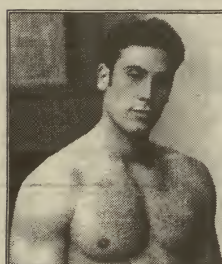
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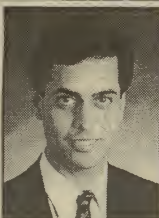


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Legal News



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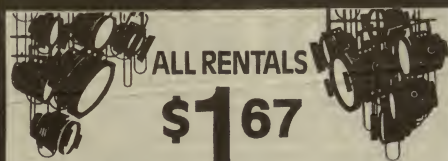
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"Wet Back Night" at Tranny Shack

I suggest the producers of this event make good use of the chain-link fence for maybe "Slave-Ship Night," or "Concentration Camp Night." It would be thrifty and the only thing trashed would be the integrity of other human beings.

It saddens me to think this group could be so insensitive. Shame on the Stud for letting it take place, and the patrons who found humor in the misfortune of others.

Ron Cordova
San Francisco

Smoking ban opens up the Castro

This is the beginning of the third month of smoke-free bars in California. I think this is a good time to look at what this has meant to the people of California and especially to the lesbian/gay/transgender community. In spite of more than 43 million dollars of tobacco industry money thrown at so called "smokers rights organizations," the truth is that the new law is working very well with mostly voluntary compliance. The tobacco industry has used one of the most powerful P.R. firms in the world to try to create yet another deception to promote their version of the truth. We constantly hear about the poor bar owners who are hurting because of the ban. We never hear about the overwhelming number of bars who have actually increased their business because of the ban. We never hear about the bars who complain but refuse to turn over their receipts to prove their claims. I personally know of one bar in the Castro that has had a declining customer base for more than one year, and now they claim they have been hurt by the ban.

When I walk down Market Street and see the huge image of a camel on top of a rainbow on the billboard above Cafe Flore, I do not think that the tobacco industry is a friend of the lesbian/gay community. I think instead of the fact that more people die from tobacco than from AIDS. I remember my friends and my lover lying in hospitals connected to respirators gasping for breath. Then I wonder why our community is not angry and speaking up like the African-American and Hispanic communities.

Perhaps we have lived in the smoke-filled world of gay socializing so long that we believe gay and lesbian are synonymous with smoker. Nothing could be further from the truth.

I am one of the people with asthma who can now spend time socializing in Castro clubs because of the new law that protects my right to access all public buildings in California.

Robert Starkey
San Francisco

A Rape of the lungs

Regarding "Let them wear masks!" [Mailstrom, March 5], I have to admit I'm getting a little tired of the ridiculous parallels made by smokers who defend their right to pollute public indoor spaces. I can make some parallels of my own. Try comparing the effort to repeal the ban on smoking with the effort to repeal gay rights legislation. Try comparing the idea that the rights of smokers to pollute the air we breathe are civil rights, just as the rights of racists to discriminate against blacks are civil rights and religious people have the right to discriminate against gays.

Then there are the parallels to other jobs where people are exposed to toxins, such as coal mines and auto repair shops. They will tell us that smoking is legal so why should it be banned in bars? Drinking is legal also, but drinking and driving is not. Sex is legal among consenting adults, but rape is not legal. We could call smoking in public a rape of the lungs. Those who want the ban on smoking repealed will even go as far as to say that smokers have been banned from bars. It is cigarettes that have been banned from bars, not smokers.

The whole issue is whether people who are harmed by or do not want to be exposed to tobacco smoke should continue to be exposed because smokers don't want to walk outside for their next fix. It kinda reminds me of people who want to keep hating homosexuals because it's too much trouble to become educated.

David Fox
San Francisco

I remember it well...

Like the famous song in the film *Gigi*, "I remember it well." The closing of a legend landmark the P.S. Saloon on Polk Street will bring many beautiful warm memories to me. Oh what a lovely musical of life it would make for the world to enjoy. The elegant and witty true San Franciscans with their fashion best and companions sitting there enjoying what our fabulous city represented.

It was a truly loving family. I was happy to be a part of its history.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier II
San Francisco

'Winners' and 'losers'

[The following letter was sent to Senator Trent Lott]

It was with a great deal of dismay that I read in the *San Francisco Chronicle* that you are refusing to set a date for a vote on the Senate floor for the nomination of James Hormel to be Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Let me add that as a citizen of the United States and a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, I am outraged that so distinguished a man as Mr. Hormel is not even being given the opportunity to be judged by the rest of your Senate colleagues, whether that vote ultimately be in favor or opposed to his nomination.

If it is truly a question of character, honor or morality, the "winners" are both Mr. Hormel and his son for their real American family values as expressed in the attached article. Unfortunately, the "losers" are the people of America and Luxembourg for having to be unwilling participants in this shameless political game you are playing.

Glenn Cooper
Guerneville

SF Police support needle exchange

[The following letter was sent to Donna Shalala, Secretary of the Dept of Health and Human Services.]

I am writing to express the San Francisco Police Department's support for the needle exchange program operated by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation HIV Prevention Project (SFAF HPP), as well as support efforts to eliminate current federal restrictions on funding of needle exchange programs.

IN 1993, Mayor Frank Jordan declared a state of emergency in San Francisco due to skyrocketing AIDS epidemic and began to fund San Francisco's local exchange program which is now the largest in the nation. Since its inception, this public health program has continued to expand with the strong support of Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr. and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

A cooperative relationship has been developed between the Police Department and the SFAF HPP to ensure the success of the needle exchange program within the context of law enforcement. The SFAF HPP has informed the Department of all sites for the needle exchange. It has provided training and education for officers so that they understand how the programs operate and can participate fully in this effective partnership of public health a public safety officials. Individuals who provide staff support at the exchange sites present laminated cards to officers which immediately verify their role in the exchange process.

Of significant importance to our officers is the positive impact that needle exchange has had on public safety. Officers report that needle sticks are less likely to occur during routine "pat downs" because exchange syringes tend to be capped. This fact, in addition to removing dirty syringes from the streets, thus removing potentially dangerous biomedical waste from the community, and providing participants with referrals to healthcare and drug treatment programs certainly help prove that the needle exchange program is beneficial to the public health and safety in our community. I fully support the program and hope that the federal government through its efforts will join in this partnership.

Fred H Lau
Chief of Police
San Francisco

The Taj MaWillie

The horror that was visited upon San Francisco with the election of Willie Brown as mayor is now being visited upon us with every election during his one term. On the June 1998 ballot, we will have a measure that restores the voter-mandated plans for housing city offices at City Hall and eliminates taxpayer support for the \$1.5 million "protocol" office, commonly known as the Taj Mahal initiative. Mayor Brown illegally changed the voter-mandated plans so that he could have parties for his rich friends at City Hall. And, to further entertain the filthy rich who happen to be visitors, the mayor has set up a slush fund for a \$1.5 million "protocol" office. Over \$1 million has gone to this slush fund.

The mayor is now saying that the voter-mandated plans will cost the city more money, not his change of the plans, so he can defeat the Taj Mahal initiative. The mayor and his few remaining friends, all of whom should be ashamed to support the worst mayor in San Francisco's history, should be aware that the two most popular petitions that circulated for this election were the freeze on sewage/water rates and the Taj Mahal petitions. These two measures will pass with overwhelming approval unless there is election fraud.

Lee Heller
San Francisco

Send short, signed original letters to the Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103. Please include your telephone number for verification purposes.

Election yawner

by Wayne Friday

Last Friday's March 6 filing deadline for the June 2 open primary came and went with few, if any, surprises (where incumbents chose not to run, the filing deadline was extended to this Wednesday). Indeed, the primary will offer up mostly incumbents to California voters, particularly in contests for state Senate and Assembly seats. Most of those incumbents will face no serious opposition, and the one big change this primary season is that voters can cast ballots for whomever they please regardless of party affiliation.

However, those participating in the state's first open primary will have a much longer list of candidates when they go to the polls. Despite the fact that a voter registered in one particular party can vote for a candidate in any party, the top vote-getter from each party will move on to the November general election.

Most political observers agree that Democrats appear in good shape to retain control of the 40-member state Senate, where they currently hold a seven-vote edge, and in the Assembly, where they now enjoy a six-vote advantage.

While term limits are forcing 26 legislators statewide from office, most of those seats are expected to remain in the same party line-up, with the exception of the San Francisco/San Mateo 8th District state senate seat currently held by **Quentin Kopp**, the state's only Independent senator. That seat will undoubtedly be a gain for the Democrats since former Assemblywoman **Jackie Speier** faces little opposition in her bid to return to Sacramento as Kopp's replacement — although longtime Community College Board member and attorney **John Rioridan** tells me that Kopp has endorsed Rioridan's candidacy against Speier in the Democratic primary.

San Francisco Assemblymembers **Carole Migden** and **Kevin Shelley** and state Senator **John Burton**, all Democrats, are virtually assured of re-election this fall.

In the East Bay's 10th State Senate District, Senator **Bill Lockyer**, currently a candidate for state attorney general, is termed out. Either Assemblywoman **Liz Figueroa** (D) of Fremont or **Michael Sweeney** (D) of Hayward will likely maintain that seat for the majority Democrats.

In Marin, incumbent Assemblywoman **Kerry Mazzonni**, a Democrat, is thought to be a safe re-election bet, as is incumbent Assemblyman **Don Perata** in the East Bay. Democrats are also expected to easily win the vacant Assembly seat in the 18th Assembly District.

As for Bay Area congressional seats, Representative **Lynn Woolsey** of Marin, Representatives **Ellen Tauscher** and **Pete Stark** of the East Bay, and the interim replacement for retiring Representative **Ron Dellums**, all Democrats, as well as San Francisco Representative **Nancy Pelosi** (D), are expected to hold their posts.

In addition to the above, the June 2 ballot will have nine state propositions, including measures to abolish municipal courts, limit



In the pink: Cannabis king Dennis Peron, with an assist from his Pomeranian Pinky Lee, gets sworn in March 5 as an official candidate for governor of California.

spending on school administration, require school instruction in English, and limit congressional terms.

Probably no race will receive more attention in the Bay Area than that for mayor of Oakland. As almost everyone knows by now, former Governor **Jerry Brown** has entered that contest and is one of 12 candidates, including Alameda County Supervisor **Mary King**, Oakland Councilman **Ignacio DeLa-**

Fuente and **Shannon Reeves** (a Republican). All are seeking the spot being vacated by **Elihu Harris**; Brown and one of the other contenders are expected to be headed for a November run-off election.

Ladies' choice?

Los Angeles-area Congresswoman **Jane Harman** is considered a political moderate. The gubernatorial hopeful supports the death penalty and is strong on national defense issues. However, she is also pro-choice and pro-gay rights. Harman, a self-styled "Feinstein Democrat" and the only female candidate for governor in either party, can be expected to appeal to women voters who are either uninspired or flatly at odds with the male candidates, especially pro-choice Republican women who vehemently disagree with the anti-abortion position of **Dan "Preacher Man" Lungren**.

All these months he has sat quietly on the Board of Supervisors. Now **Amos Brown** has finally come up with a real brain-storm: giving free, personalized shopping carts to the city's homeless — and a place to park them. Hello? Is this the best Brown can do to ameliorate the homeless problem? What's next? Designer sleeping bags from Bed and Bath? Is Amos Brown in big political trouble come November or what?

As of press time, Mayor **Willie Brown** has yet to announce a supe replacement for **Susan Leal**. It's only been four months since Leal was elected city treasurer! Really, what's up, Mr. Mayor?

Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley** will kick off his re-election effort on Thursday, March 19, 6-8 p.m., Delancey Street Restaurant, 600 The Embarcadero, \$100, 920-9764 for more information.

I find this hard to believe, but one of the city's top political consultants insists that **Clint Reilly** is "dead serious" about running against Mayor Brown next year.

With the Latino vote assuming more and more importance in California, leaders of both the Democratic and Republican parties have begun reaching out to this newly politically powerful voting bloc. A recent poll revealed that Latino voters' party affiliation is weak. Two out of three express no party preference. Democrats have already made their pitch, and if the GOP could stop insulting this pivotal group (who have **Loretta Sanchez** still fresh in their minds), they might do well with this largely uncommitted, fast-growing electorate.

At first glance, of all the candidates for state attorney general, former Rep. **Lynn Schenk** of San Diego would appear to be the best of the lot.

Torrid in Torrance: The three GOP U.S. Senate candidates — **Darrell Issa**, **Matt Fong**, and Rep. **Frank Riggs** — as well as fellow right-winger **Dan Lungren**, spent the past weekend in lovely Torrance sucking up to the far-right, ultra-conservative California Republican Assembly. The loquacious Lungren, to no one's surprise, wailed on about abortion and family values: "It goes far beyond the abortion issue; it goes to the question of whether families are important. It goes to the question of whether or not state government makes an assumption that parents are dangerous to their children; it goes to saving and nurturing the family." I detect a slight problem with pronoun reference here, Danny Boy. What exactly is "it"? Or maybe I don't want to know.

Bilious barbs: The print bitch fight between the **Chron's Ken Garcia** and the **Ex's Rob Morse** over the coverage (or lack of it) of **Examiner** honcho **Phil "Butch" Bronstein's** recent marriage to the **Marilyn Monroe** of our time, actress **Sharon Stone**, has reached new lows in sheer silliness.

State Senator **Quentin Kopp** may be leaving public office, but he isn't leaving quietly. Kopp's new legislative measures, aimed directly at **Willie Brown**, deal with the mayor's control over Treasure Island and staffing at City Hall. The two are thought to be no-brainers headed for big wins at the ballot box. The mayor isn't happy.

My Quote of the Week is superstar **Madonna's** bit of advice to **Bill Clinton's** friend, **Monica Lewinsky**: "If you have had an intimate relationship with somebody (other than your mate), I don't care if it's the bellboy or the president of the United States, shut the fuck up." This from a girl who knows! ▼

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Brave, clean, irreverent

by Beth Elliott

Someone would probably say his statement was way too "assimilationist," but I rather like what Michael Rossoff, co-chair of the Bay Area Lesbian and Gay Non-Partisan Alliance, had to say about the dufus who wrote into the local dailies to claim there was a specific eight-point "Gay Agenda." In fact, I had one of those "Damn, I wish I'd said that!" moments reading his letter in response, part of which said:

"This is America. There is no single gay agenda. The dreams of gay Americans extend as far and wide as they do for all other Americans." Can we hear the chorus starting to hum "America the Beautiful" in the background yet?

"But if stated in broad strokes, the gay agenda ensures fair and equal treatment for all Americans as guaranteed by our sacred Bill of Rights." Bring up the waving flag in the background. Look! It's Iron Eyes Cody with a tear in his eye. "To fully participate in the American way of life on a fair and level field at work and at play. These basic rights inure to all Americans. Whether we like it or not."

Jeez, the guy sounds like a

America." Nothing burns me like people saying homosexuality is a nasty thing to do, so whoever prefers love and intimacy with one of their own sex must be going out of their way to be nasty and low down.

Let's get back to that thing of homosexuals being not a group but an aggregation of individuals: the type of person I think would be a role model for Boy Scout values would be someone who lives those values, all that cheerful, helpful, friendly, honest stuff. I would think the Boy Scouts would be proud of someone who judges people by how they treat other people, meaning whether they treat other people in that Boy Scout Code kind of way, instead of making assumptions about them based on to whom they may like to be especially loyal and friendly.

We all know it's a religious thing at work here (obviously not one of intelligence or maturity!). And yet, when we pay some attention to things that were said by the reputed founder of the religious tradition behind which the Boy

scouting the statement they worked out at their conference in San Diego via the Internet, and a copy came to me through the Femmedykes list. Mostly good stuff, innocuously stated. But I'm wondering ... did anyone else read all the stuff about how important it is that all sex and sexual hygiene education be communicated in a sex-positive way — and think of Oprah and the Texas ranchers who got a law passed making any negative statements about beef action-able in a court of law?

Seriously! Having read some of the hue and cry, I know there are some people who consider any admonition to think before you plink to be sex-negative propaganda at best, censorship at worst. But hey, don't listen to me ... it's your life ... literally. Somehow, I don't think a culture that has to be protected against any less than adoring remarks is a culture that can survive.

Fun With Media Dept.: I'm a loyal Foghead and all, especially since the station has a non-closeted morning jock (Dave Morey), but I must say I'm thrilled to discover that a new South Bay "classic rock" station (hey, even I'm wary when a station brags about that format), KFOX at 104.9, has brought one of the classic rock 'n' roll disk jockeys back to the Bay Area. No, M. Dung was not one of those AM Top 40 jocks my teenage babysitters got me to listen to, but he plays the really rockin' stuff, meaning the rootsy stuff and the R&B from which rock was born, with an enthusiasm that would do Elwood Blues proud. His old "Sunday Night Idiot Show" on KFOG was like havin' church, if you know what I mean, and I'm glad he's back. Dung Boy! Baby! I'm whippin' out the big column plug for your face, o-day!!!

And KTVU's series on the Ten O'Clock News celebrating its 40th anniversary has been a kick, especially with the clips of the kids' shows like *Captain Satellite* and *Charley Horse*. I found them almost as cute as Elaine Corral, on whom I must confess I have a bit of a crush. I know I have much less competition there than for coparenting with Jodie Foster, who's unclear on the concept of all of us wanting to have that love child for her! ▼

I know there are some people who consider any admonition to think before you plink to be sex-negative propaganda at best, censorship at worst. But hey, don't listen to me ... it's your life.

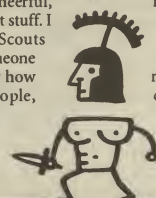
freakin' Boy Scout! Oops! A touchy metaphor, given the pending lawsuit in New Jersey that has Scouting's knickers and neckerchiefs all in knots. As you read last week, James Dale is eligible not only for reinstatement as an assistant scoutmaster but monetary damages. Rather than show their belief in American fair play by shaking hands with the winner, the Boy Scouts are appealing to the New Jersey Supreme Court.

The thing that really galls me, and this is apropos of last week's mention of the controversy over Ambassador-in-Waiting James Hormel, was Scouting's statement that "A homosexual is not a role model for the values that are taught by the Boy Scouts of

Scouts hide, we see things like, "Hey, diptwit! The people you think are scum may be the ones who treat you in a neighborly way when you need it the most!" And even, "Pay attention to how people treat other people, idiot child."

It's like the people, one of whom wrote into Dear Abby recently, who are afraid of being in close quarters with a queer of the same sex because they figure we can't help but get turned on, like they would sharing quarters with someone of the opposite sex. When you have attraction and familiarity, it's a different dynamic — if things really worked like that, none of us queers would ever leave the house, eh?

Meanwhile, Sex Panic has been



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HISTORY LESSON

Susan B. Anthony: Queer as a one-dollar coin?

by David Bianco

Susan B. Anthony, the most famous American feminist, never married, dedicated her life to women's causes, surrounded herself with female friends, and had an intense romantic friendship with Anna Dickinson, one of her colleagues. Ninety-two years ago, Anthony died holding the hand of Anna Howard Shaw, another unmarried feminist, who lived for many years with Anthony's niece. Whether Anthony was a sexless career woman or as queer as a one-dollar coin is a question that has confounded lesbian and gay historians.

Mainstream historians have amply chronicled the facts of Anthony's life. She was born in western Massachusetts in 1820 and moved as a young child with her family to upstate New York. Her Quaker parents instilled in her their beliefs in peace, social justice, and equality for all. Like many Quakers, Anthony's father and brothers were active in the anti-slavery movement. Her father owned a series of cotton mills and always refused to purchase cotton from slave plantations.

Anthony's parents also believed in education for their daughters, at a time when few girls learned to read or write. Anthony attended a Quaker academy in Philadelphia but had to leave when the Panic of 1837 bankrupted her father. She came home and at age 17 became a teacher to help support the family.

She began her activist career in the 1840s, when she started volunteering her time for the Daughters of Temperance, trying to bring public attention to the effects of male drunkenness on women and children. Although she was interested in feminism,

Anthony did not attend the famous women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. It wasn't until a few years later, when she read a newspaper account of a fiery speech by suffragist Lucy Stone, that Anthony began to make the transition from temperance work to women's rights. Without the vote, she realized, women would never be able to influence public policy on other important issues, such as temperance and abolition.

For the next 50 years, Anthony worked tirelessly for the women's rights movement, crisscrossing the country on speaking engagements and appearing before Congress every year from 1869 to 1906 to lobby for a women's suffrage amendment. In addition to public speaking, she wrote extensively on women's rights and published a feminist newspaper called *The Revolution* with Elizabeth Cady Stanton. She and Stanton also co-authored a multi-volume work, *History of Woman Suffrage*, which they self-published in installments from 1881 to 1902.

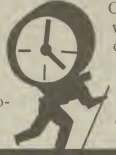
Perhaps Anthony's finest hour came in 1872, in a protest that queer activists a century later might call a "zap." Attempting to test the Fourteenth Amendment, which gave suffrage to black men but not to women, Anthony, three of her sisters, and several supporters marched to the polls in Rochester, New York, and demanded ballots. They were successful (Anthony cast her vote for a straight Republican ticket), but two weeks later, Anthony was arrested and forced to stand trial. The court found her guilty and imposed a \$100 fine — a huge sum in those days, when a woman's annual teaching salary

was not much higher than that.

Anthony died 14 years before women achieved the vote. Ridiculed in her own time, she is today recognized as an important historical figure. A statue of her and other feminist pioneers was recently moved from the basement to the rotunda in U.S. Capitol, and she is the only woman to have her image on a U.S. coin (at least for now — the U.S. Treasury recently announced plans for a new, redesigned dollar coin). But while mainstream historians have extolled her political contributions, they

have generally ignored her personal life, assuming that she had none because she never married. Queer historians, however, have uncovered the romantic friendships of Anthony and other feminists and speculated on these women as proto-lesbians.

Gay historian Jonathan Ned Katz studied Anthony's unpublished letters to Anna Dickinson, a feminist orator. "My dear Chicky Dicky Darling," Anthony wrote to Dickinson in 1868. "Now when are you coming to New York. ... I have plain quarters — at 44 Bond Street — double bed — and big enough to take you in..." In another letter, Anthony encouraged Dickinson "not to



Past Out

page 25 ►

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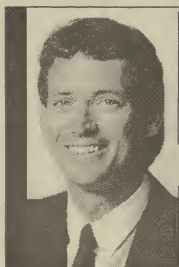
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No Time for gays or AIDS

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

The much-publicized 75th Anniversary special issue of *Time* (March 9), tells the story of the last three-quarters of a century of history, and according to its telling, neither the struggle for lesbian and gay people's equal rights nor AIDS ever happened. It is understandable that *Time* would not include the 1969 Stonewall Riots (the symbolic kick-off of the modern movement for gay civil rights) because the magazine's early coverage of gay issues was scant at best. But during the 1980-1989 section, entitled "Comeback," neither gay issues nor, shockingly, AIDS, is ever mentioned in any of the sections, from "Nation" to "World." Even in "Milestones," instead of mentioning the death of Rock Hudson, the significant historical marker is "Divorced. Elizabeth Taylor Hilton Wilding Todd Fisher Burton Burton Warner."

"1989-1998: Transformation" ignores the global pandemic of AIDS that has left millions dead and many others living with HIV, and the critical discovery of protease inhibitors is also ignored. Yet the Heaven's Gate cult suicide of 39 gets space. While "Seinfeld Calls It Quits" gets a deserved mention, Ellen DeGeneres and her historic "Yep, I'm Gay" cover gets nary a mention, neither is it included on the cover of the issue, despite the fact that 92 covers from the last 75 years are featured. In fact, of the 92 covers, just one includes anything about lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or AIDS-related subjects: a 1950s cover with James Baldwin which does not mention his sexual orientation. Under "Miscellany," the Ellen cover is finally cited in brief, listed as the tenth "heaviest reader mail" generated in *Time*'s history, and mentioned in a footnote as one of nine "female cover subjects in 1997."

"GLAAD, and many Americans, are dismayed by *Time*'s skewed perspective on history that excludes the lesbian and gay civil rights movement, which has had a profound effect on the political, legal and cultural landscape of America," said GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry. "Even more startling is the magazine's silence on AIDS. This disease has transformed the world in countless ways during the 1980s and 1990s. We urge *Time* to publicly account for these glaring omissions. We expect more from one of the most important news magazines of the century."

Let *Time* know how disappointing their lack of historical vision regarding gay people and AIDS is.

Contact: Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, *Time* Magazine, Time-Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, fax: (212) 522-8949, e-mail: Letters@time.com (include phone and address with all correspondence).

More on *Nothing Sacred*'s suppressed episode

As reported in the January 16, 1998 GLAADAlert ("ABC Buries *Nothing Sacred* Gay Episode"), ABC has refused to air a *Nothing Sacred* episode about a gay priest with AIDS. In the March 1 *New York Times*, Rev. Andrew M. Greeley says viewers should see

the episode, entitled "H.I.V. Priest: Film at 11." According to Greeley, ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses has kept it off the air due to the objections of "the ultraconservative Catholic League," but she said it was, "likely [the episode] will turn up at some point." Calling the episode "the best story about the Roman Catholic priesthood since Graham Greene's classic 1940 novel *The Power and the Glory*," Greeley says, "The decision to suppress the episode is based on a curious kind of anti-Catholicism, the conviction that Catholics are really unsophisticated and would react in shocked horror to the suggestion that a priest might have AIDS ... [But] the emphasis of the story is not on AIDS or homosexuality. [It] is about forgiveness and new beginnings [and] the loyalty to one another that is part of the priestly tradition ... It is the story of the power and the glory of the priesthood radiating through the fragility of the humans who exercise the priestly function."

He adds that "Catholics have realized all along that priests can be drunkards, loafers, tyrants, liars, thieves, and worst of all, rotten preachers ... The Catholic laity have realized that priests can also violate their vows of celibacy and even be sexual predators. Many lay people know of a priest who has died of AIDS. [The laity] are not mindless cement-heads who see a political attack on Catholicism in a series that in fact celebrates the priesthood. Most Catholics would be proud of Ray as he persuades Jesse to remain as loyal as he can to his vocation ... There is not a hint of anti-Catholicism in *Nothing Sacred* and especially in 'H.I.V. Priest.' The series is almost embarrassingly pro-Catholic. ABC should let everyone judge for themselves."

GLAAD had an opportunity to see the un-aired episode, and is shocked that ABC would refuse to air it and questions the network's motivations. "This episode, like the program in general, is compelling and honest and addresses real issues in the Catholic church today," said GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry. "ABC should allow its viewers to make their own decisions."

Urge ABC to air this program and stop kow-towing to the tyranny of a vocal radical religious minority seeking to force their own skewed view of reality on the free-thinking American television audience. Also, thank the *New York Times* for giving Greeley a forum for his perspective.

Contact: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90037, fax: (310) 557-7679, e-mail: netaudr@abc.com, or call ABC at: (310) 557-7777 and ask to be connected to their audience response line; and Howell Raines, Editorial/Opinion Page Editor, *New York Times*, 229 West 43rd St., New York, NY 10036-3959, fax: (212) 556-3690, e-mail: letters@nytimes.com (include phone number when sending e-mails).

60 Minutes wrestles with issue of "ex-gays"

On March 1, a 60 Minutes segment with Leslie Stahl began

with the question, "What happens when your son tells you he's gay and doesn't want to be?" Stahl then introduces an anti-gay radical religious group called Exodus "which claims to change the sexual orientation of gay people, with a course of Bible study, behavioral modification and peer counseling." They present a "PFOX" (Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays) meeting

where several parents ask what they did to "make"



their children gay. The main PFOX mom interviewed is so ashamed that she remains in shadow with her voice disguised. Her son has been in Exodus for two years and she claims he is happier now. She states her stereotypical

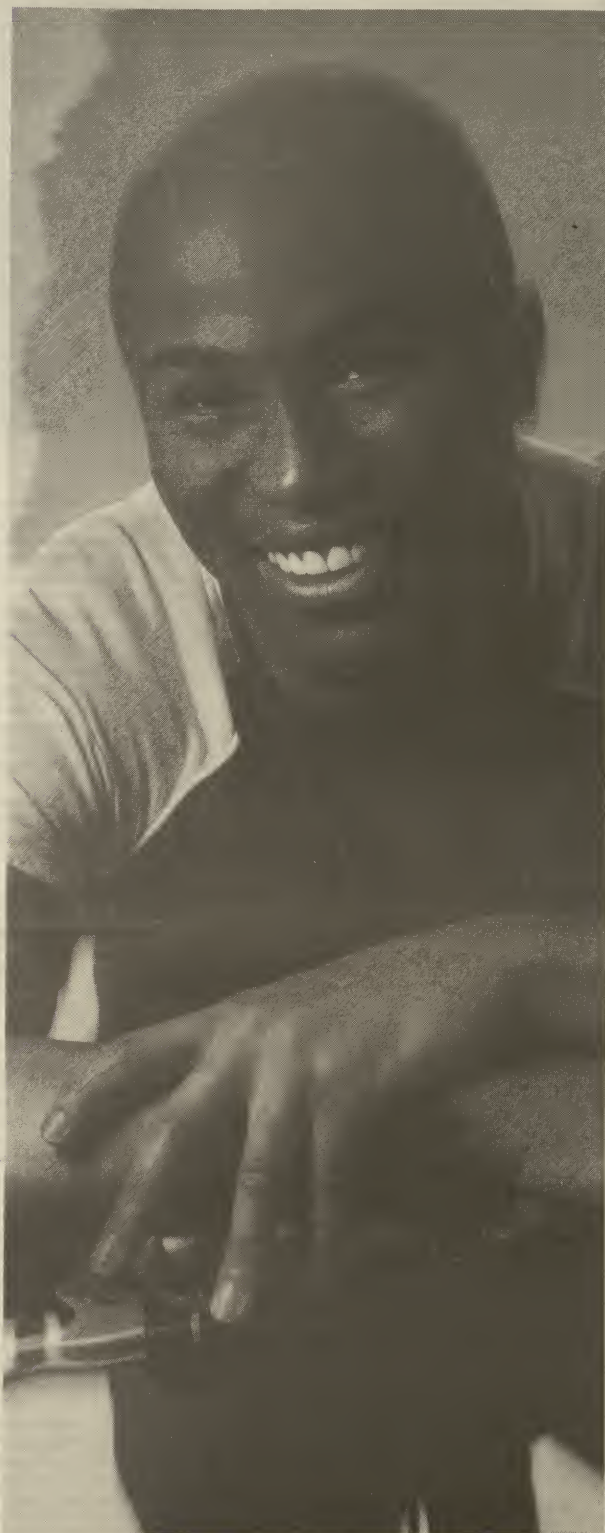
view on being gay: "It's the end of life as far as I'm concerned ... you've no family, no children, no life ... God didn't make anybody gay." Then the show features John Polk, a current spokesman for Exodus (the two founders of the organization have long since condemned the organization and become comfortable with their real sexual orientation). Polk has been married for four years to a "former" lesbian and they have one child. Stahl asks for Exodus's success rate, but not surprisingly, they refuse to provide it. Then Stahl interviews Cathy Tuerk, whose son came to her when he was eight years old and said, "I hate myself — I think I'm a fag." Tuerk tells a deeply moved Stahl about trying to toughen him up, concluding, "I abused my son."

Next, Doug, an openly gay man, relates his own experience with two exorcisms and five years of religious-based "conversion therapy" without success. He tells Stahl that "Being an ex-gay is like being an ex-black." Stahl then refocuses on Tuerk, who eventually went to PFLAG (Parents, Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays), found herself among other parents who care deeply about their children, and is now president of a PFLAG chapter. The closing shot is of her at last year's Youth Pride Day telling the crowd "I am a proud mom of a gay son, and I am here to tell you, you are not alone."

Write CBS and 60 Minutes and thank them for their balanced portrayal, while mentioning that it should be more strongly emphasized that the American Psychological Association does not consider homosexuality to be an illness and therefore it cannot be "cured" by these so-called conversion therapies.

Contact: Andrew Heyward, President, CBS Television Network, 524 West 57th St., New York, NY 10019-2902, fax: (212) 975-9387; and Don Hewitt, Executive Producer, 60 Minutes, 555 West 57th St., New York, NY 10019-2925, fax: (212) 975-2019. ▼

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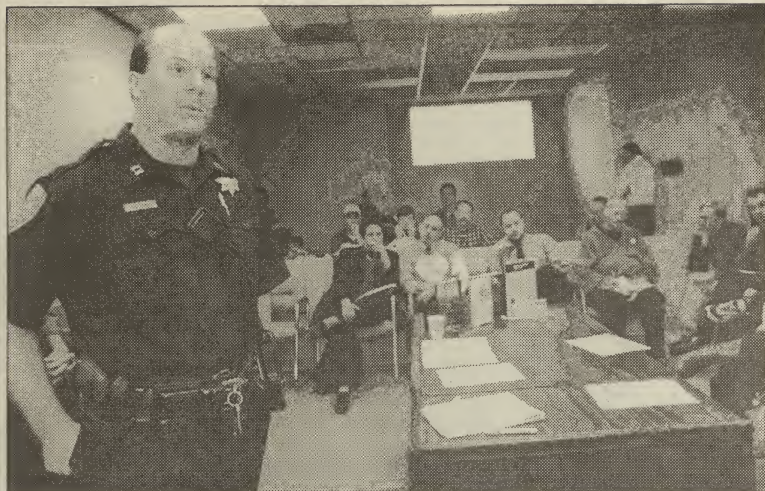
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Compassion fatigued: Mission Station Police Captain Greg Suhr (left) addresses MUMC at its March 5 meeting.

MCC, MUMC

◀ page 1

ization project, the idea is not merely to discourage giving change to panhandlers, but to

steer donations to nonprofit service organizations such as New Leaf, Larkin Street Youth Center, and Dolores Street Community Services.

People in the Castro want to do the right thing, Ward said, but

"professional panhandlers" from outside the neighborhood "sap the compassion that has always been part of this community."

Nearly all the merchants at the meeting agreed.

The lone dissenting voice in the meeting room came from Jim Mitulski, pastor of Metropolitan Community Church (MCC).

"What I resist is the proposed pamphlet, [which has] a very dehumanizing tone," Mitulski told the merchants. "It's harsh looking, and doesn't communicate compassion."

Asked by one merchant if he encouraged people to panhandle, Mitulski replied no, that he only feeds them.

His church, in conjunction with volunteers from A Different Light (ADL) bookstore, serves meals to the homeless three nights a week. ADL employees do the cooking and serving each Friday at the church; MCC staff serve meals each Wednesday; and MCC collaborates with Prevention Point, a program sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, to serve food each Thursday at the needle-exchange site behind the Safeway at Church and Market. All meals are from 4-6 p.m.

At MCC, "we understand this is by no means a comprehensive response to the problem," Mitulski told the B.A.R., "but it's consistent with our values, bringing immediate relief to people in crisis. We look to city and other agencies to do their part as well."

Mitulski believes the "Create Change. Don't Hand It Out" posters will have a negative, chilling effect on the neighborhood by making people in the Castro seem mean-spirited.

"We love the neighborhood, and helped shape it," said Mitulski of MCC, which is situated in the heart of the Castro. "I want to see neighborhood be a model for compassion."

Mitulski took issue with MUMC President Patrick Batt's assertion that because of panhandlers, the Castro's quality of life is in decline. On the contrary, said Mitulski, in all the 12 years he's worked in the neighborhood, he's never seen it more vibrant. Even his church is experiencing a renaissance, Mitulski admits, however, that his expectations for the neighborhood may be colored by having lived in New York City: "In urban areas, I expect to encounter poverty, homelessness, and crime."

For everyone in the Castro, concluded Mitulski, "what's crucial is how we respond. Compassion should be the first value communicated in any information we put out to the public."

CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS DISPENSING WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION.

ZERIT® (stavudine)

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 10/96. For complete prescribing information, please consult official package circular.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy. The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

Study A455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing <60 kg, and 50 mg BID for those weighing >60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID. The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline, 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

Table 1 - Incidence of Disease Progression

	ZERIT	zidovudine
First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*		
6 months	4.4%	4.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two dose levels of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program. In patients with late advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent after ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients. Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT. Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physician and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility
Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenicity and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromatosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

* The parallel track program (STUDY A455-000) treated 1,255 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts <200/mm³ who had not been, were not, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C₅₀) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy "Category C." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C₅₀) up to 399 and 153 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of elements, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 153 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 153 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use

Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients. Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after IV and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean ± SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 ± 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean ± SD volume of distribution was 18.5 ± 9.1 L/m². The distribution of stavudine in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged from 0.008 to 0.105 µg/mL at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean ± SD 50% ± 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD total body clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 ± 94 mL/min/m². The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87 mL/min/m². The percentage of these excreted unchanged in the urine was 34.5% after oral administration.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage of pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see "WARNINGS" section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Modest elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

Table 2
Peripheral Neuropathy Leading to Dose Modification

	Study A455-019 ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	Parallel Track Program ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=595)	ZERIT (20 mg BID) (n=40)
Peripheral Neuropathy			
Grade 1-2	11	3	17
Grade 3-4	2	1	1
Total	13	4	18

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Table 3
Selected Clinical Adverse Events in the Phase 3 Controlled Clinical Trials

	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Adverse Events		
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Diarrhea	40	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	44
Abdominal Pain	32	35
Myalgia	29	31
Insomnia	19	22
Anorexia	9	8
Allergic Reaction	9	8
Pancreatitis	9	8

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
Includes all clinical complaints.
Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4
Controlled Clinical Trials: Incidence of Adult Laboratory Abnormalities*

	Study A455-019 ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Lab Tests (units)		
AST (SGOT) (≤5.0 x ULN)	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (≤5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin (≤5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (≤8.0 g/L)	-	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	3	3
Amylase (≤1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.
Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.
ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients:

Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSEAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdose include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964	15	60 0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965	20	60 0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966	30	60 0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967	40	60 0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water (NDC No. 0003-1968-01). US Patent No. 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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Panhandlers

◀ page 1

help her across the street when I can. Just anybody who's in need, I try to help. Because, you know, I depend on people to help me. So I try to give back, but there's not a whole lot I can do."

In his soft-spoken, philosophical manner, Doug said that he's "kind of here by choice, and kind of by fate."

"I think a lot of people are unhappy because there's no spiritual fulfillment anymore," Doug explained. "That's kind of why I'm out here, I guess, because I'm trying to learn how to live without all the material things that make people's lives more complex, more unhappy."

A rough childhood in Toledo, Ohio, made it hard for him to cope with school and work, said Doug: "So for me this is kind of the easier way to not have a lot of responsibility. I usually screw up responsibility."

After moving to San Francisco, he and his girlfriend, Catherine, chose to panhandle on Castro sidewalks and sleep in area doorways, because they'd heard the money was good here, and the neighborhood relatively friendly and crime-free.

Both Doug and Catherine are bisexual, Doug added, "which is part of the reason we hang out in this neighborhood."

What would he do if people stopped giving him money?

"I don't know," replied Doug. "I could always shoplift and make money that way, but I don't like to do that. I'd probably have to eat out of garbage cans more often. I wouldn't be able to catch the bus, go see movies once in a while. I like to buy books and read a lot. Just the little things."

Not surprisingly, given his all-American boyish good looks, Doug gets hit on a lot by gay men, "but it turns me off," he said. "I don't hustle, like a prostitute, but I make relations with guys that give me help once in a while. Like if I'm sick and need a hotel room, I'll call them and ask for help. But I don't do tricks."

As for staying in homeless shelters, Doug shrugs the idea off as repugnant: "It's kind of a degrading process. They treat you really small, like you're retarded or something, like you're a wingless bird."

What particularly annoys Doug is the manner in which so many of his fellow street people use their situations to arouse pity in others. "It really makes me mad when people have signs that say 'homeless and hungry,'" he said. "It builds the stigma in people's heads about homeless people, that we're all pathetic."

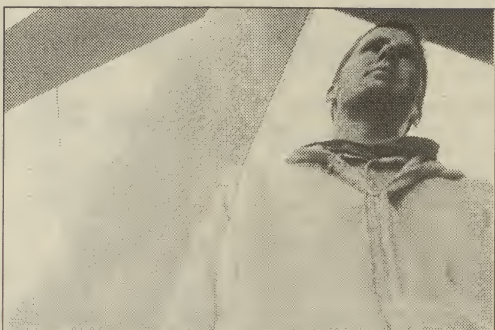
In fact, adds Doug, "I'm pretty happy, generally speaking. I don't think it's so bad living out here."

Mostly he and Catherine keep out of people's way, Doug said. They want to be friendly.

"A lot of people who come from bad backgrounds and childhoods just spread hate and destruction their whole lives," observed Doug, noting that Catherine, too, had a troubled adolescence. "We're trying to change that, to show people there's a better way to live. You don't have to be victimized by society, stuck at the bottom your whole life. You've just got to figure out a way to the top. I dunno, the bottom can be the top."

Ask more questions! Take more photos!

Twenty-two-year-old bisexual Drake John Flama, soliciting coins in front of Walgreens on the corner of 18th and Castro, his beefy, muscular frame decked out in an eye-popping array of stud-



Doug: "I'm pretty happy, generally speaking. I don't think it's so bad living out here."

ded leather, said a friend had told him about the merchants' anti-panhandling campaign.

From what he heard, Flama said, the merchants are "assuming that every person who panhandles out here is spending the money they make on drugs and shit. I don't use drugs, I don't drink all that much, and when I do, I'm not the one who pays for it anyway. I go to the Hole in the Wall every once in a while. Sometimes somebody'll offer to buy me a drink, then it'll be all good. I spend my money on food and pretty much the essentials."

Flama said he has been homeless for about 10 months, six of which he has spent in the Bay Area. He comes to the Castro specifically to panhandle, because the money's better there than anywhere else.

He has tried getting a job as a model ("I love having my picture taken," he assured B.A.R. photographer Jane Cleland), but has been unable to save up enough for head shots.

Where does he stay? "Sometimes I'll couch surf, and crash at friends' houses," Flama replied. "When I can't do that, I'll drop in at the Episcopal sanctuary. When I can't do that, I'll sleep on the BART train. It's warm there, and semi-comfortable. But that's like a last resort."

The \$670 a month he receives from Social Security disability "is not quite enough to rent an apartment," added Flama.

"Right now I'm squatting in Berkeley," Flama said. "I think I'll pretty much stay there and spange there. Oh, 'spange' is short for 'spare change.'"

Quieter than the TL

Terri, whose aged, weathered face speaks volumes about the hardships she's seen, said she and her husband have been on the street for 11 months, since losing their Social Security income.

"We got automated, that's why we're here," said Terri as she attempted to pass out flyers to passersby, advertising a psychic's services. "We lived down in Lodi. Both of us had \$12-an-hour jobs," he in a metal shop, she in a garage-door factory.

"I did riveting," said Terri. Then they got an automatic riveter, so they didn't need me any more. We came up here because we always knew you could survive in San Francisco.

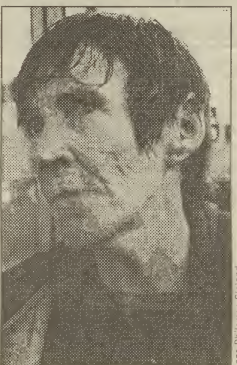
"I don't choose to be out here," insists Terri. "I have to be out here." And it could happen to anyone, she warns.

At first, she and her husband stayed in the Boston Hotel in the "TL" (Tenderloin), then they ended up at the Paramount Hotel. But when they could no longer afford even a residential hotel, they came to the Castro.

"This is our home, because it's a quieter area," said Terri of the Castro. "The TL is filthy, full of dope fiends, alcoholics, junkies, people laying on the street and

stuff. I don't like that. I wasn't raised a slob and I'm not gonna be a slob. The way I look at it is if you're out here, you should at least have a little pride in what you do."

Always before panhandling, she said, she cleans up the area around her. Those who don't do similarly irk her: "There's a lot of slob out here. These young kids, especially who come down here from the Haight, they could give a shit less about this area. It's not their home. They don't care."



Terri: "I don't choose to be out here. I have to be out here."

Alas, the hardships are many for Terri and her husband. She tells of having blankets, clothing, and other possessions ripped off by thieves. Worst of all, Terri adds, "The cops are terrible. They hassle us all the time for no reason. We're not rude. We're not aggressive."

Harsh treatment by merchants is another occupational hazard. One bar manager, said Terri, tells people passing her by on the sidewalk near his establishment not to give her money, because "she's just going to use it for drugs."

"How the fuck does he know if I'm going to use it for drugs?" asks Terri. "If I do, it's none of his business, but I don't. I don't go running to connections. I'm in a treatment program, at my choice. Nobody court ordered it. I choose to be. Just because you're on the street doesn't mean you're a dope fiend, doesn't mean you're an alcoholic." ▼

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Sunshine

◀ page 1

were "dead set against" any change to bring "sunshine" to nonprofits that have contracts with the city, according to Ammiano.

Several task force members who spoke with the B.A.R. hailed the consensus agreement as a major step forward; the big break occurred Thursday, March 5 at the task force's final meeting when the panel recommended the city appoint a non-voting observer to the board of an agency in the event there are "certain levels of noncompliance" with provisions of the proposal. AIDS activist Jeff Getty of ACT UP/Golden Gate was credited with breaking the logjam; activists had been pushing for the city to appoint people to nonprofit boards if the agency has contracts with the city that total over \$100,000.

Project Open Hand's Executive Director Tom Nolan, who served as chair of the task force, was praised for running a smooth series of meetings, which he said were a learning experience for many. "It started out with everyone giving speeches," he told the B.A.R.

"Tom Nolan was fantastic," said Getty.

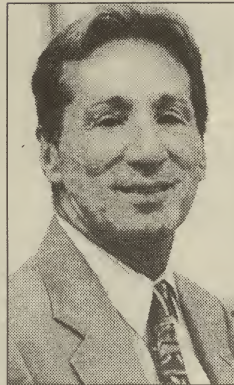
Regarding the recommendation about board composition, Getty said that after talking with lawyers and nonprofit administrators he realized the proposal would not work. "We wanted to come up with some sort of mechanism that would be feasible. We did get a board observer [in the recommendations] in extreme situations as a way to help agencies straighten out. Some people on the task force felt that by the time an observer came in, the agency has already screwed up, but from the community's point of view that observer will probably be a community representative and likely to be a dissenting activist

who would then have a seat at the table," Getty told the B.A.R. "We've done very well and got a nice consensus."

The need for evaluations

Not everyone is happy with the recommendations. Some AIDS activists oppose the board observer proposal, for example, and others think the changes don't go far enough; but the recommendations are expected to lead to legislation that would create "sunshine," or community accountability, among the hundreds of nonprofit agencies that receive millions of dollars in public funds to provide a wide range of services. And, by including nonprofit board and staff members on the task force, Ammiano has helped secure support for the legislation.

"Community accountability, or 'sunshine,' is a high value we all hold," Nolan stated in a letter to Ammiano outlining the task force's consensus. "We are willing to try additional forms of accountability, perhaps as a prelude to extending 'sunshine' to all gov-



Suppe Tom Ammiano

have to pay for. "I think it's a really key piece. If we are all committed to improving programs, it's important to have access to that kind of information by a third party," Rybicki told the B.A.R. He added that the evaluation is as important as information about

"The more frequent types of human contact a board has, the more it leads to a spirit of collaboration."

ernment contracts." Nolan also said the task force learned of the many mechanisms the city has in place to monitor nonprofits, so the recommendations "should be seen as building upon an already substantial system of accountability."

Robert Rybicki, executive director at Shanti, served on the task force and said he will continue to push for greater accountability, particularly in the area of having independent evaluations performed that nonprofits won't

agency finances. While budgets may show how money was spent, they don't "tell how well you did services."

"This is a first step in the right direction. I don't know how any board could live without this," Rybicki said, adding he hopes nonprofits will see that having a more open process, especially around board meetings, is beneficial. "Having open meetings and consumers on the board is the best way for board members to attempt to get reliable, up to date informa-

tion. The more frequent types of human contact a board has, the more it leads to a spirit of collaboration and that can only happen by inviting the community in."

The details

Specifically, the task force's consensus covers four main points:

- The city should standardize its contract monitoring process, and create guidelines for exempt categories of agencies such as abortion clinics and battered spouse shelters. Guidelines should be developed for exemptions for certain types of information, including litigation, personnel, real estate, and sensitive donor information. The city should fund external performance evaluations that are qualitative and quantitative for nonprofits;

- Nonprofits should be required to create a package of pertinent, readable financial information including federal Internal Revenue Service Form 990s, audits, and budgets. The information should be readily available and accessible to the public. Information that's requested beyond that would be dealt with by the city's Sunshine Task Force.

- Nonprofits that receive public funds should hold two board meetings annually that deal with substantial matters and allow ample time for public comment. Notice of the meetings should be given 30 days in advance, and notification should be cost-neutral to the agencies but easily accessible to the public.

- In addition to the recommendation about the city-appointed non-voting observer to "noncompliant" agencies, the consensus also suggested that agencies actively seek consumers to serve on boards, noticing vacancies in ways that are accessible, providing for self-nomination at one of the open board meetings, and providing for public input on board membership needs. ▼

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- Replace brake fluid
- Adjust parking brake
- Inspect brake lining
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- Set tire pressure
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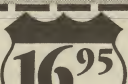
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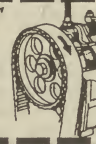
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Do you have the time to stop the epidemic?

It's prevention, dammit!

by Mike Salinas

Seventeen years of the AIDS epidemic may have left many people overwhelmed by the frustrating feeling there is nothing they can do beyond raising funds, raising the occasional hell, and sticking red ribbon stamps on their letters. However, those who want to go somewhat further in fighting AIDS may find their most effective option is to get involved in prevention.

Prevention might sound like a single concept, but it covers an enormous variety of theories and practices with the potential to reduce the HIV infection rate, from statistical analysis of risk data to more hands-on work such as ensuring that needles, condoms, and — theoretically, at least — HIV-killing lubricants are available to those who need them.

This month, as the San Francisco HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC) begins setting its priorities and determining where to allocate next year's funds, it has undertaken an unprecedented effort to include the public in its decision-making process. The council, which is mandated by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, promised in "preliminary plans for 1998" released at its February 26 meeting that this "is a year to bring the [prevention] plan to the community, and the community to the plan ... [and] also a time to bring community perspectives even more into the plan and planning process."

With that goal in mind, the council has established new outreach, community input, and membership committees, plus task forces that concentrate on cultural competency, priority setting, and strategic evaluation, to guide the implementation of recommendations the council develops. All committees and task forces are open to members of the public who have the time and inclination to help fight the spread of HIV.

More for HIV-positives?

Although setting priorities and following them through to implementation can be enormously rewarding, it probably won't be easy. Budgetary constraints will force council members to make difficult funding choices in dozens of areas where financial assistance has been requested — virtually all of them with some merit.

As the next round of priority-setting begins, Dan Wohlfeiler, the education director at the San Francisco-based Stop AIDS Project, says, "We need to examine our prevention efforts and adjust them for the times."

Wohlfeiler is encouraged that transmission rates are down, observing the change from "the early '80s, [when] 8,000 San Franciscans got infected each year, well over 90 percent of them gay and bisexual men" to 1998, when 500 people are expected to seroconvert, "of whom two-thirds will still be gay and bisexual men." Still, he says, "It's hard to jump up and down for joy when 'one out of three of us is infected.'"

Also, he cautions, there is what he calls "the paradox of success,"

and says, "Anyone working in sexually transmitted diseases or tuberculosis will tell you that once [infection] rates are down, public support, volunteer hours, and public dollars dry up. Then the number of new cases goes back up. It takes a long, sustained effort to maintain prevention successes."

It is another paradox, Wohlfeiler says, that with improved drug therapy "the prolonged lives of HIV-infected individuals also mean [for HIV-negative gay men] that the odds of infection with an unknown partner will remain at the current level as they are now, instead of declining as they have been." He urges more prevention efforts targeting HIV-positive men to reduce their risk behavior, and says, "Even though most HIV-positive men are very conscientious about their behavior, it is an obvious if uncomfortable truth that if HIV-positive [people] were not having unsafe sex, no one would get infected."

Lydia Temoshok, the former scientific director of the U.S. Military HIV Research Program's HIV Behavioral Prevention Program, also urges focusing on those already infected. She testified before the House Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Health and the Environment February 5 that it was probably not possible "to prevent the secondary infection of others, and ultimately halt the advance of the epidemic, without effective transmission prevention programs for people who test seropositive."

Temoshok told legislators that in the studies she supervised, "Results suggest that specific prevention approaches may be differentially appropriate for HIV-positive and for HIV-negative (or unknown) persons." Unfortunately, she said, "It is both curious and disturbing that of the many HIV intervention and prevention efforts implemented during the past 16 years since AIDS was first recognized, prevention of transmission by HIV-positive individuals has rarely been discussed, much less attempted."

According to Temoshok, those efforts should begin immediately after detection and diagnosis, "with intensive counseling and validated methods to prevent transmission to uninfected persons."

Four days after Temoshok testified before Congress, the *Archives of Internal Medicine* published a study of 203 HIV-infected men and women that seemed to bolster her figures. Forty percent of the 129 study subjects who were sexually active did not tell their partners about their infection, and 58 percent of those who withheld the information did not regularly use condoms, even though they knew they could transmit HIV to their partners.

Lead researcher Michael Stein from Brown University School of Medicine said reasons for failing to tell included shame, fear of rejection, violence, and loss of income. Wohlfeiler would like to see San Francisco address those obstacles to honesty and lowered transmission rates.

"Our individual actions — the way we have sex, the numbers of partners with whom we take risks, the way we inject drugs, the way

we adhere to treatment regimens — will affect not only ourselves, but our friends and our future," he says. "Our collective actions — the way we plan, the way we allocate resources, the way we treat one another — will also affect how much faster the epidemic slows."

More for gays?

Barry Brinkley, the director of HIV prevention at the San Francisco AIDS Office and a co-chair of the HPPC, acknowledged that outreach to HIV-positive people "is clearly an issue whose time has come."

However, increasing the focus on HIV-positive people would probably require reallocating more funds to the gay community, which still has the overwhelming majority of the city's AIDS cases. That would mean less money for targeting women, communities of color, and heterosexual men, where an increasing number of future infections is anticipated, and would therefore be highly controversial.

Even so, some activists and administrators privately complain that San Francisco has short-changed the gay community in prioritizing past prevention efforts, and point to recent statistics that show a great discrepancy between the percentage of PWAs who are gay men and the percentage of resources spent on gay-specific prevention efforts.

Figures from the Department of Public Health's AIDS Office show that more than 90 percent of the current AIDS cases in San Francisco are among gay and bisexual men, including the gay and bisexual male intravenous drug users who comprise about 11 percent of all gay/bi male cases. The city devoted quite a bit less than that to gay-oriented prevention programs in its last funding cycle: although figures are not completely broken down, they do show that slightly less than a quarter of all resources went to programs targeting all at-risk populations (of which an unknown percentage was spent on gay men), and less than a third of the remaining money specifically targeted gay men, bisexual men, and gay/bi drug injectors.

Brinkley at the AIDS Office told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he shares the concern that there may not be enough money going to the gay community, but said that is only one area without sufficient resources.

"More dollars are needed. Period," he said. "We are not adequately funded across the board."

He was hesitant to speculate about whether more funds will be allocated to the gay community next year, and said, "That's really a council decision; I trust the community planning process." ▼

To be a part of the HPPC process, request a "San Francisco HIV Prevention Planning Council Procedure for Inviting Community Members to Join Committees" from Betty Chan Lew at the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco CA 94102 or at (415) 554-9000.

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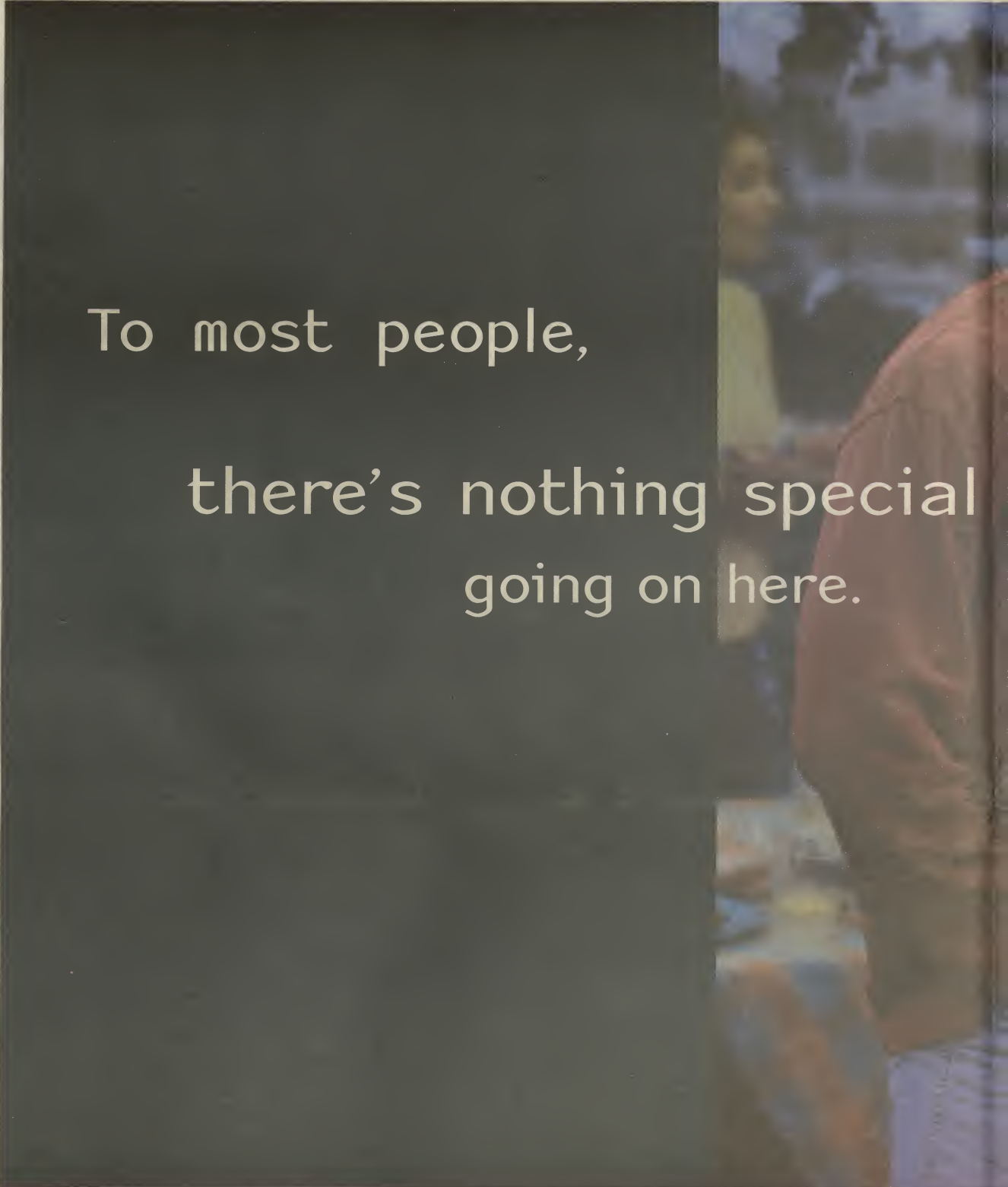
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INDICATIONS AND USAGE

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PROCIT is indicated for the treatment of anemia related to therapy with zidovudine in HIV-infected patients. PROCIT is indicated to elevate or maintain the red blood cell levels (as manifested by the hematocrit or hemoglobin determinations) and to decrease the need for transfusions in these patients. PROCIT is not indicated for the treatment of anemia in HIV-infected patients due to other factors such as iron or folate deficiencies, hemolysis or gastrointestinal bleeding, which should be managed appropriately.

PROCIT at a dose of 100 Units/kg three times per week is effective in decreasing the transfusion requirements and increasing the red blood cell level of anemic, HIV-infected patients treated with zidovudine, when the endogenous serum level of erythropoietin is ≤ 500 mU/mL, and when patients are receiving a dose of zidovudine ≤ 400 mg/week.

Responsiveness to PROCIT therapy may be blunted by concurrent infectious/inflammatory episodes and by an increase in zidovudine dosage. Consequently, the dose of PROCIT must be titrated based on these factors to maintain the desired erythropoietic response.

Treatment of Anemia in Cancer Patients on Chemotherapy

PROCIT is indicated for the treatment of anemia in patients with non-malignant malignancies where anemia is due to the effect of concomitantly administered chemotherapy. PROCIT is indicated to decrease the need for transfusions in patients who will be receiving concomitant chemotherapy for a minimum of 2 months. PROCIT is not indicated for the treatment of anemia in cancer patients due to other factors such as iron or folate deficiencies, hemolysis or gastrointestinal bleeding which should be managed appropriately.

Available evidence suggests that patients with lymphoid and solid cancers respond equivalently to PROCIT therapy, and that patients with or without tumor infiltration of the bone marrow respond equivalently to PROCIT therapy.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

- PROCIT is contraindicated in patients with:
- 1) Uncontrolled hypertension.
 - 2) Known hypersensitivity to mammalian cell-derived products.
 - 3) Known hypersensitivity to Albumin (Human).

WARNINGS

Pediatric Use:

The multipeptide preserved formulation contains benzyl alcohol. Benzyl alcohol has been reported to be associated with an increased incidence of neurological and other complications in premature infants which are sometimes fatal. The safety and effectiveness of EPOetin alfa in children have not been established.

Thrombotic Events and Increased Mortality:

In a randomized, prospective trial of 1265 hemodialysis patients with clinically evident cardiac disease (ischemic heart disease or congestive heart failure), an increased mortality was observed in these patients randomized to a target hematocrit of 42% as compared to those patients targeted to remain at a hematocrit of 30%. The reason for increased mortality observed in these studies is unknown; however, the incidence of non-fatal myocardial infarction (3.1% vs. 2.3%), vascular access thrombosis (39% vs. 29%), and all other thrombotic events (22% vs. 18%) were also higher in the group randomized to achieve a hematocrit of 42%. Increased mortality was observed in a randomized placebo-controlled study of PROCIT in patients who did not have chronic renal failure who were undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery (7 deaths among 56 patients randomized to PROCIT vs. no deaths among 56 patients receiving placebo). Four of these deaths occurred during the period of drug administration and all four deaths were associated with thrombotic events. While the extent of the population affected is unknown, in patients at risk for thrombosis, the anticipated benefits of PROCIT treatment should be weighed against the potential for increased risks associated with therapy.

Zidovudine-treated HIV-infected Patients

PROCIT therapy has not been linked to exacerbation of hypertension, seizures, and thrombotic events in HIV-infected patients.

PRECAUTIONS

The parenteral administration of any biologic product should be attended by appropriate precautions in case allergic or other untoward reactions occur (see "CONTRAINDICATIONS"). In clinical trials, while transient

rashes were occasionally observed concurrently with PROCIT therapy, no serious allergic or anaphylactic reactions were reported. See "ADVERSE REACTIONS" for more information regarding allergic reactions.

The safety and efficacy of PROCIT therapy have not been established in patients with a known history of a seizure disorder or underlying hematologic disease (e.g., sickle cell anemia, myelodysplastic syndromes, or hypercoagulable disorders).

In some female patients, menses have resumed following PROCIT therapy; the possibility of pregnancy should be discussed and the need for contraception evaluated.

Hematology: Exacerbation of porphyria has been observed rarely in patients with CRF treated with PROCIT. Nevertheless, PROCIT should be used with caution in patients with known porphyria.

In preclinical studies in dogs and rats, but not in monkeys, PROCIT therapy was associated with subcutaneous bone marrow fibrosis. Bone marrow fibrosis is a known complication of CRF in humans and may be related to secondary hyperparathyroidism or unknown factors.

In zidovudine-treated HIV-infected and cancer patients, hematocrit should be measured once a week until stabilized and periodically thereafter.

Delayed or Diminished Response: If the patient fails to respond or to maintain a response to doses within the recommended dosing range, the following etiologies should be considered and evaluated:

- 1) Iron deficiency: Virtually all patients will eventually require supplemental iron therapy (see "Iron Evaluation").
- 2) Underlying infectious, inflammatory, or malignant processes.
- 3) Occult blood loss.
- 4) Underlying hematologic diseases (i.e., thalassemia refractory anemia, or other myelodysplastic disorder).
- 5) Vitamin deficiencies: folic acid or vitamin B12.
- 6) Hemolysis.
- 7) Aluminum intoxication.
- 8) Osteitis fibrosa cystica.

Iron Evaluation: During PROCIT therapy, absolute functional iron deficiency may develop. Functional iron deficiency, with normal ferritin levels but low transferrin saturation, is presumably due to the inability to mobilize iron stores rapidly enough to support increased erythropoiesis. Transferrin saturation should be at least 20% and ferritin should be at least 100 ng/mL.

Prior to and during PROCIT therapy, the patient's iron status, including transferrin saturation (serum iron divided by iron binding capacity) and serum ferritin, should be evaluated. Virtually all patients will eventually require supplemental iron to increase or maintain transferrin saturation to levels which will adequately support erythropoiesis stimulated by PROCIT.

Drug Interactions: No evidence of interaction of PROCIT with other drugs was observed in the course of clinical trials.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Carcinogenic potential of PROCIT has not been evaluated. PROCIT does not induce bacterial gene mutation (Ames Test), chromosomal aberrations in mammalian cells, micronuclei in mice, or gene mutation at the HGPRT locus. In female rats treated intravenously with PROCIT, there was a trend for slightly increased fetal wastage at doses of 100 and 500 Units/kg.

Pregnancy Category C: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. PROCIT should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

In studies in female rats, there were decreases in body weight gain, delays in appearance of abdominal hair, delayed eyelid opening, delayed ossification, and decreases in the number of caudal vertebrae in the F1 fetuses of the 500 Units/kg group. In female rats treated intravenously, there was a trend for slightly increased fetal wastage at doses of 100 and 500 Units/kg. PROCIT has not shown any adverse effect at doses as high as 500 Units/kg in pregnant rabbits (from day 6 to 18 of gestation).

Nursing mothers: Postnatal observations of the live offspring (F1 generation) of female rats treated with PROCIT during gestation and lactation revealed no effect of PROCIT at doses up to 500 Units/kg. There were, however, decreases in body weight gain, delays in appearance of abdominal hair, eyelid opening, and decreases in the number of caudal vertebrae in the F1 fetuses of the 500 Units/kg group. There were no effects related to PROCIT on the F2 generation fetuses.

It is not known whether PROCIT is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when PROCIT is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: The safety and effectiveness of

by Cynthia Laird

A mounting deficit at the San Francisco-based National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) may result in new fiscal actions for the three local programs, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned. According to both Dick Pabich, Mayor Willie Brown's point person on HIV/AIDS issues, and NTFAP's Chief Executive Officer Mario Solis-Marich, the mayor turned down a request last Friday, March 6 for \$300,000 to help carry the task force through June. Pabich said Solis-Marich informed him the agency's deficit is over \$500,000.

Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz told the B.A.R. that the Depart-

ment of Public Health's AIDS Office is ready to step in and find new homes for the three local programs: New Village, which targets African-American gay men; Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, which serves the Latina/o gay community; and the Native American AIDS Project. "The health department is going to make sure these programs continue," Katz said. "If the task force is not able, the health department will absolutely determine fiscal agents. We don't have fiscal agents identified yet."

Pabich also said that the mayor is committed to keeping the local programs going without interruption.

Solis-Marich told the B.A.R. that he has been grappling with the financial crisis since becoming

CEO one year ago. He blamed much of the mess on decisions that were made before he arrived. "We're between a rock and a hard place," Solis-Marich said. "We have a deficit from years previous to me being here." He was adamant that no money from city contracts to run the local programs went to the task force's national organizing and technical assistance efforts.

"What happened was there was no system in place to do appropriate tracking, so we needed to put those systems in place," Solis-Marich said.

A city fiscal monitoring report of the NTFAP done in 1997 that covered prior years revealed accounting controls were inadequate and that many expenses and reimbursements were questionable and, in at least one case, inappropriate. That expense involved giving an advance of nearly \$6,000 in relocation costs to a job candidate who then declined the job. There's no record of the money being repaid.

Pabich said one of the city's concerns is the NTFAP's board of directors. "The composition of the board is largely the same people that have run up this deficit in the first place," said Pabich.

He said that part of his request to the mayor was that the city eliminate part of the task force's deficit that is from operations of the local programs. While he initially asked the city for \$300,000, some of that has been negotiated, subsequently, the task force needs about \$150,000 immediately, Solis-Marich said.

The local program managers have been informed of the situation and want to see if something can be worked out with the city. Katz said the AIDS Office could move quickly — within a day — if the city needs to find new agencies to run the local programs. ▼

Section 8

◀ page 3

for economic reasons only," said Ammiano, adding such evictions cannot currently be appealed to the rent board. The supervisor hoping to introduce legislation to correct the problem.

James Morales, director of the city's Redevelopment Agency, spoke at last week's hearing about the HOPWA program. "I'd personally be willing to look at variations to the HOPWA program," Morales said. Such things might include using the subsidies outside of San Francisco or addressing the room-mate issue. While HOPWA doesn't allow for roommates, Morales said the regulations contain a "very expansive definition of family."

Ammiano said he would like to institute pilot programs to explore the effectiveness of changes in regulations to make it a little easier for people who get the rental assistance to use it. ▼

For information on the new Section 8 rent schedule, call the San Francisco Housing Authority at (415) 554-1200. For information about the HOPWA program, call the Redevelopment Agency at (415) 749-2400.

ment of Public Health's AIDS Office is ready to step in and find new homes for the three local programs: New Village, which targets African-American gay men; Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, which serves the Latina/o gay community; and the Native American AIDS Project. "The health department is going to make sure these programs continue," Katz said. "If the task force is not able, the health department will absolutely determine fiscal agents. We don't have fiscal agents identified yet."

Pabich also said that the mayor is committed to keeping the local programs going without interruption.

Solis-Marich told the B.A.R. that he has been grappling with the financial crisis since becoming

Cancer Patients on Chemotherapy

Adverse experiences reported in clinical trials with PROCIT in cancer patients were consistent with the underlying disease state. In double-blind, placebo-controlled studies of up to 3-months duration involving 131 cancer patients, adverse events with an incidence > 10% in either patients treated with PROCIT or placebo-treated patients were as indicated below:

Percent of Patients Reporting Event

Patients Treated with PROCIT	PLACEBO-Treated Patients
Event (N=63)	(N=68)
Pyrexia	29%
Diarrhea	21%
Nausea	17%
Bloating	17%
Edema	17%
Asthenia	13%
Fatigue	13%
Shortness of Breath	13%
Paresthesia	11%
Upper Respiratory	11%
Infection	5%
Diarrhea	5%
Trunk Pain	2%

ap = 0.041 bp = 0.069 cp = 0.0016 dp = 0.017

Although some statistically significant differences between patients treated with PROCIT and placebo-treated patients were noted, the overall safety profile of PROCIT appeared to be consistent with the disease process of advanced cancer. During double-blind and subsequent open-label therapy in which patients (N=72) were treated for up to 32 weeks with doses as high as 927 Units/kg, the adverse experience profile of PROCIT was consistent with the progression of advanced cancer.

Based on comparable survival data and on the percentage of patients treated with PROCIT and placebo-treated patients who discontinued therapy due to death, disease progression or adverse experiences (22% and 13%, respectively, p=0.25), the clinical outcome in patients treated with PROCIT and placebo-treated patients appeared to be similar. Available data from animal tumor models and measurement of proliferation of solid tumor cells from clinical biopsy specimens in response to PROCIT does not indicate tumor growth. Nevertheless, as a growth factor, the possibility that PROCIT may potentiate growth of some tumors, particularly myeloid tumors, cannot be excluded.

The mean peripheral white blood cell count was unchanged following PROCIT therapy compared to the corresponding value in the placebo-treated group.

OVERDOSAGE

The maximum amount of PROCIT that can be safely administered in single or multiple doses has not been determined. Doses of up to 1,500 Units/kg (T.I.W.) for three to four weeks have been administered without any direct toxic effects of PROCIT therapy. Therapy with PROCIT can result in polycythemia if the hematocrit is not carefully monitored and the dose appropriately adjusted. If the suggested target range is exceeded, PROCIT may be temporarily withheld until the hematocrit returns to the suggested target range. PROCIT therapy may then be resumed using a lower dose (see "DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION"). If polycythemia is of concern, phlebotomy may be indicated to decrease the hematocrit.

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MACT up!

After 19 years, multicultural group still gives best dialogue in town

by Terrance Boykin

Almost two decades ago, a group of concerned gay men began forming in San Francisco to build cross-cultural bridges of friendships in the midst of our race-obsessed society. Initially started and nurtured through a grass roots newsletter, the group marched in the Gay Pride Parade of 1980 under the name Black and White Men Together.

Since then, Black and White Men Together has outgrown its former name, and is now Men of All Colors Together. (According to the group's former volunteer chairs, the organization's membership has always reflected a diverse spectrum of ethnic and cultural backgrounds, but the name was changed to send a much clearer message to the community that the group acknowledges and welcomes everyone.) It has also grown far beyond San Francisco, with chapters meetings in about two dozen American cities, plus London and Brazil.

Still, some things haven't changed: Men Of All Colors Together is still a non-profit gay organization with multicultural and multiracial members committed to fostering an environment filled with educational, political, and social exchange. MACT still keeps its members informed with a newsletter filled with tips on health, the arts, current events, and various articles that support the social and political topics of their monthly meetings. And its goal is still to foster dialogue and engage the issues of racism, sexism, homophobia, and other inequities that affect the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

As the group has matured, core members have continued to search for new ways to reinforce its purpose and to re-evaluate its curriculum. The result of its growth has been a broader organizational focus geared to reflect the changes in our society and in the diverse landscape of the gay community.

As co-chair Ted Friedman told the B.A.R., "We have a great diversity amongst our members. We



MACT members Ted Friedman, Gary, Richard Brownscombe and David Chan.

cover the cultural and political spectrum — even Republicans."

The group sponsors four to five activities each month in San Francisco, and currently works with about half-dozen related organizations. Some of the group's activities are held at the Lone Star Saloon, such as the beer and soda bust; the chat night, which features guest speakers on relevant social topics; and the Sunday brunches. Other activities include a roaming video night and outings to restaurants and legit theater.

Former Co-Chair Richard Brownscombe, who joined MACT in the mid-1980s, said, "Part of what draws me, and all who participate in our activities, is the ability to conduct a dialogue that is different, and that is educational and beneficial."

As one longtime member put it, "The friendships I have gained through this group have been long lasting. I am still with the group because we continue to deal with multicultural and multiracial issues in an intelligent way."

MACT members are also in-

volved in other areas within the community. Board member David Chan, for instance, is also an active member of Pacific Friends and The Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center. He said, "There are many groups that have a theme of finding someone who has the exact same interests. I like the idea of having an organization that says even though we are different there is something about being gay or queer that we share, there are issues that maybe haunt all of us that we can address together."

Next Friday, March 20, MACT will show the documentary film *Where Are We? Our Trip Through America* by Robert Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman as the centerpiece of its video night. The film will begin at 7 p.m., but the location was not established at press time. ▼

For more information, call MACT events line at (415) 675-0201, or visit the website at <http://users.aol.com/mactsfba/home/page.html>, or e-mail mactsfba@aol.com.

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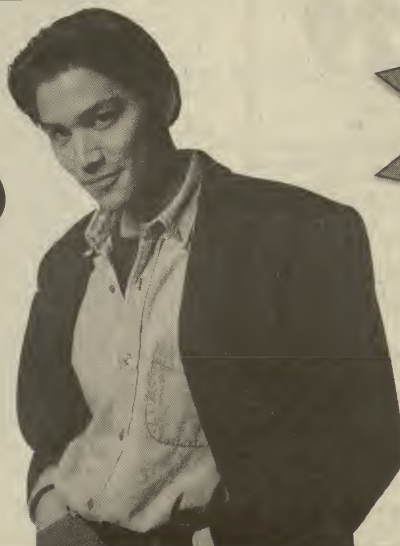
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The unresolved destiny of the 1800 Market St. building is affecting fundraising for the LGBT Community Center.

Small buildings demolished at community center site

CCP board, preservationists should reach agreement on Fallon Building soon

by Cynthia Laird

Demolition of three small structures on the site of the planned Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center took place this week as the project moves forward, even though no decision has been reached about the fate of the Fallon Building. The demolition did not adversely affect the Victorian building; in fact, both the Community Center Project (CCP) Board of Directors and the Friends of 1800 Market Street, the group that formed to rally against razing the Fallon Building, supported tearing down the small buildings. Both groups stated the action was needed to prevent access by squatters to the Fallon, thus protecting its interior from further vandalism.

Plans for the \$9.5 million community center at Market and Octavia streets are moving forward, and negotiations are said to be near completion between the CCP board, Friends of 1800 Market Street, the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage, and the mayor's office. The groups began meeting several months ago to reach agreement on the project's design. A second feasibility study done by preservationist architect Jay Turnbull and the CCP's architects has shaved \$1.5 million off the cost of restoring the 104-year-old Victorian building, although keeping the historic structure would increase the center's budget by about \$500,000.

CCP board member Scott Shafer was asked how much longer the negotiations would continue and how long the CCP board was willing to wait; the cen-

ter is already a few months behind schedule, although it is still projected to be open in late 2000. Shafer said the CCP board is anxious to resolve the issue and hopes to have a decision by next month's board meeting.

Shaky foundations of a different sort

The controversy is now starting to have an impact on the center's capital campaign — corporate donors and foundations are leery and many will not commit to making a donation without schematic drawings of the center; those drawings can't be completed until the CCP has made a decision about whether to retain the Victorian as part of the gay community center.

Mark Leno, co-chair of the center's \$3.5 million capital campaign, told the B.A.R. that the lingering issue of the Fallon Building is beginning to affect fundraising. "Foundations want to see some hard numbers and we don't have that. Because we don't have that, it's held up [fundraising]. Until that is resolved, it's difficult." Leno said that to date, the CCP has raised \$1.6 million of the \$3.5 million needed. That figure does not include any costs to restore the Fallon Building.

Last year, the CCP board stated that restoring the Fallon Building and making it part of the community center could cost an additional \$2.6 million. According to Gary Goad of Friends of 1800 Market Street, and Shafer, the feasibility study recently completed by Turnbull has significantly lowered that cost to around \$500,000. Gone are initial CCP plans for a rooftop deck on the Victorian and some other costly items, Goad

said. "There were a number of things done to reduce costs," Goad said of the second feasibility report. "Negotiations are continuing and another meeting has been scheduled with the mayor's office."

Mayor Willie Brown got involved late last year after the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board voted to pursue whether the Fallon Building should be examined for landmark status. Since last November, several meetings have been held with staff from the mayor's office and progress has been made at each one.

Goad said CCP board President Brenda Barnette and director Barbara French attended the last Friends of 1800 Market Street meeting at the group's invitation. "I think it's right on," Goad said of the negotiations. "I'm really glad we've gotten involved and I think everyone's going to win."

Friends of 1800 Market Street has not officially committed to helping raise funds for the community center, which is something the CCP board would like to see, particularly if the Fallon Building is restored. "We haven't voted on it, but the consensus is yes, if the building is part of the project, Friends of 1800 Market Street would raise money specifically to help pay for the restoration," Goad told the B.A.R.

The demolition work was done by the San Francisco firm of Peak Engineering, Inc. at a cost of \$20,000. The necessary permits were obtained from the Planning Department and supported by Friends of 1800 Market Street. Sunset Scavengers, a subsidiary of Norcal Waste Systems, donated debris boxes worth up to \$10,000 for the demolition clean up, said Shafer. ▼

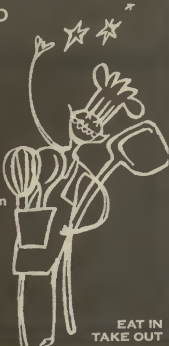
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YANKEE CLIPPER TRAVEL

City says no to Life Center lease

... Until it finds other tenants

by Brad Heinz

The 17-year-old crater in a lot at Market and 16th streets in the heart of the Castro bestows a sense of postwar Berlin. It used to be the site of Trinity United Methodist Church, but an arsonist set it ablaze in a presumed hate crime after its congregation welcomed gay men and lesbians. The shattered brick foundation of the church now supports only a rusted metal fence that brings an eerie neglect to the neighborhood.

Since 1990, some members of the community have dreamed of building a four-story AIDS resource center on the site. Known as the Life Center, it would house providers of health, education and support services under one roof to promote collaboration among individual agencies.

But organizers have not yet found agencies to fill the space. First, the AIDS Health Project pulled out of the scheme. Now, the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) says it will not sign a lease unless the Life Center finds agencies to sublet its space.

And planning for the center has been marred by an absence of the very collaboration organizers hoped to foster. Jim Dilly, executive director of the AIDS Health Project, is telling the Department of Public Health that the concept for the center is flawed.

Robert Oakes, a member of the Board of Directors of the nonprofit trying to build the Life Center, responds that Dilly is "trying to trash" the center for political reasons. He claims that Dilly was "Machiavellian," tying up work on the center until he could get a facility of his own.

A \$1.5 million investment

The delay in constructing the center has been costly. A 49-year lease for the site valued at \$1 million was donated by the church, which has also contributed about \$500,000 to cover the cost of planning the Life Center. Each year the site remains fallow, a \$1.5 million investment returns nothing to the community.

Time has also witnessed a dramatic change in the AIDS crisis. During the eight years the Life Center has been in the planning stage, combination drug therapies have helped many patients live longer and healthier. They make fewer visits to medical offices for

the treatment of individual diseases related to HIV infection. It's an evolution that has the community of AIDS service providers in turmoil. And a bricks and mortar approach may be dated, say some.

The lease that is being considered by the Department of Public Health would cover about 15,000 square feet in the Life Center at a rate of \$1.36 per square foot for a period of 10 years. The Life Center needs the \$2.4 million lease to guaranty construction financing of about \$3.6 million. The cost to build the facility is \$5.2 million, with the remaining \$1.6 million expected from a variety of sources.

But after meeting last Friday, March 6 with Life Center organizers, San Francisco Health Director Mitch Katz issued a statement suggesting the city does not want to use the space. "The city will not be able to agree to a lease until we have been able to identify a sufficient number of agencies that wish to locate their services at the Life Center and who have the ability to pay the rent that is necessary to offset the mortgage," he said.

The Life Center does have tenants for other space in the building. Walgreen Co. has signed a 10-year lease for 3,000 square feet of storefront space at \$4.25 per square foot. And the Under One Roof retail store, which donates all profits to AIDS organizations, is expected to lease 1,500 square feet of storefront space, at a discounted rate. In addition, the church would use a 2,400 square feet meeting room for church services and activities.

In 1994, the Life Center and the AIDS Health Project struck an agreement in principle for the AIDS Health Project to manage the standard of care for direct services provided by various agencies at the center. The AIDS Health Project was expected to lease about 14,200 square feet at the center, and, in 1995, it received temporary space at 400 Castro St. free-of-charge that the Life Center helped arrange.

But after a Market Street building already owned by the University of California became vacant, the AIDS Health Project, which is affiliated with the university, renounced the Life Center and moved there.

AIDS Health Project's Dilly claims that the Life Center abandoned the plan to have services and client flow coordinated by the AIDS Health Project. "Providing

services to a multi-diagnosed complex population is not an easy thing," he said. "There are possibilities for problems."

Oakes denies the Life Center changed its intentions. "It's garbage for him to say the center can't coordinate services," he said. "The nonprofit is building a building so that providers can come together in one location."

Yanking the carpet

"My opinion was [Dilly] used the development of the Life Center to get temporary space at 400 Castro, and he was not forthcoming about his use of the facility to get a place of his own," Oakes said. "I just hate it when people lie to me. The building would be built today and in operation if they hadn't yanked the carpet out from under us."

Oakes said that he didn't want his comments to reflect poorly on the services the AIDS Health Project performs. "I think what [the project] does is admirable work. Whether [clients] go to the AIDS Health Project or the Life Center should depend on the services being provided rather than the turf that someone is protecting."

Dilly has raised his concerns about the Life Center with city officials. "I have an opinion about how it should operate," he said. "I wouldn't characterize it as we're out to stop it."

Ira Glasser, development coordinator for the Life Center, admits some of the delay is also due to the failure of the nonprofit's board of directors to fundraise aggressively.



Crater face: The site where Market, Noe and 16th St. converge is still basically a gaping hole with a fence around it after 17 years.

"We didn't want to go to the community and take money from smaller groups," he said. "We wanted to get funding from sources that had not been actively contributing. We're just surprised that the community itself hasn't stood up to say 'what a fantastic deal.' I think it's because we didn't do a very good job of sharing the message about what we were doing."

Although the city doesn't want to use the space at the Life Center for its own services, Dean Goodwin, Mayor Willie Brown's liaison to the lesbian, gay and transgender community, thinks there is a need for the center.

"The Life Center isn't a service

provider, but it helps smaller agencies consolidate and reduce their costs," he said. "No matter what changes take place in the epidemic, there will always be a need for service to the community. It's just a matter of what kind." Goodwin thinks the Life Center's central location makes it an ideal place for a work reentry and computer training program, being developed by AIDS Benefits Counselors.

Glasser said the organizers of the Life Center will schedule another meeting with Katz after the Life Center's board of directors meets on March 18 to consider the "options" discussed in the meeting with Katz. ▼

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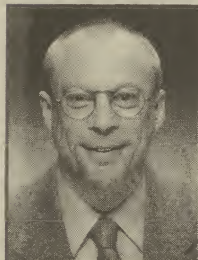
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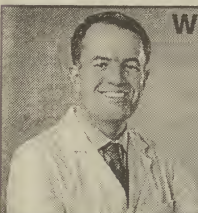
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Willie Brown

◀ page 1

larly criticized by the media and has seen his support among voters dip since he took office in January 1996, the mayor remains popular among gays, women, African Americans, and those under 45, according to a *San Francisco Examiner* poll done in late 1997.

Brown will almost certainly seek reelection in two years. "If I had to decide today, absolutely," he said. "I haven't finished my tasks."

Between now and then, a lot will happen in San Francisco, and Brown will be a driving force behind a number of things that will benefit the city as a whole and the queer community in particular.

Queer supe looks likely

The wait started even before all of the ballots were counted last November 4: it's a question the mayor is asked by reporters almost daily: Who will Brown appoint to the Board of Supervisors as Susan Leal's replacement? After Leal, a Latina lesbian, was elected treasurer and Brown was asked "The Question" at her victory celebration, he said he wanted to appoint "another Susan Leal." He has steadfastly maintained that position as he goes about deciding on who will be his fifth board appointment since becoming mayor.

Leal resigned from the board in early January to assume her new duties and the city's 11-member legislative body has been one person short ever since. Names have been tossed around by political observers, rumors have abounded throughout City Hall, yet Brown has taken his time in making a decision.

In what is perhaps the closest he has come to committing to fill the seat with a queer person of color, Brown told the *Bay Area Reporter* his reasoning was simple. "Susan is a lesbian and it would be replacing [that]. It's not like she was just appointed. She got elected and I've got to respect the voters' choice," said Brown. Leal was appointed to the board in 1993 and won election a year later with over 100,000 votes.

Brown said he has taken no longer making this appointment than others, with the exception of Michael Yaki, who filled the first vacancy. "I'm within my time frame," said Brown, adding he has high standards. "You don't know how valuable Susan was. She's disciplined, knowledgeable, has courage, and has political sense. She didn't become addicted to the process... [the constituency didn't] frighten her into inaction. She made the best public policy decision and then marketed it."

Brown has spent most of his life serving the public; he became one of the most powerful men in California during his tenure as speaker of the Assembly, and he finds it disturbing that some people he's approached for the board job are unwilling to serve.

Supports equal benefits law

Brown has always supported the city's domestic partner benefits law that went into effect last June. The landmark ordinance requires companies that do business with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if those benefits are offered to spouses. The law is being challenged in U.S. District Court by the Air Transport Association (ATA) and Federal Express, but no decision has been made. The latest development, however, is a blow to the city as Fed Ex was granted a temporary restraining order. A hearing has been sched-

uled for next month. Since last June, nearly 3,000 companies covering over 600,000 employees have complied with the law.

The mayor was asked what the city's prepared to do should it lose the lawsuit. While the judge could rule a number of different ways, one scenario would exclude some benefits while leaving other parts of the law intact. He said that he'd "insist on the supervisors sending down legislation" that would conform to the judge's decision if it changes the existing ordinance. "I believe in the domestic partner ordinance and I am appalled that companies are challenging that act," he said. "It seems almost inhumane to deny benefits."

"My responsibility would be to overcome what objections there are and we'll have to find a way to do that. I don't speculate on the worst case, just as we worked out [solution] with the Archbishop; if the church can live with the domestic partner law, it seems to me civil operations on the private side ought to be able to live with domestic partner coverage."

Medical marijuana, AIDS Summit

Brown has convened periodic summits — daylong meetings that focus on a specific issue — and in January held his first devoted to HIV/AIDS. Brown stayed the entire day, often asking questions and responding to comments by the audience. Local and national AIDS experts presented panels on just about every issue related to the epidemic. Brown said that a significant development from the conference was his

come up with policies that would withstand a legal challenge.

One of Willie's pet projects

Brown is overseeing several major capital projects, including two sports stadiums and several community centers, one of which is the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center that's supposed to be open by the end of 2000. Brown is a big supporter of the center; in 1996 he approved \$1.1 million in city funds grants for the Community Center Project (CCP) Board of Directors to acquire the site. He has committed a total of \$6 million for the project.

Last fall things effectively ground to a halt on the project when controversy erupted over the fate of a 104-year-old Queen Anne Victorian that sits on the property. The CCP board determined it would cost too much to restore it along with a new building. The fight pitted the CCP against Friends of 1800 Market Street, a hastily organized grass roots group that garnered community support to have the Fallon Building landmarked, a process that would significantly increase the cost and delay construction.

The mayor stepped in when it became apparent the landmarks advisory board would go forward with studying the historical issue. "I facilitated these talks," he said of the negotiations involving the CCP board, preservationists, and staff from Brown's office. People from Friends of 1800 Market met with Brown during one of his Saturday open houses. "They're real-

"I'm a 24-hour a day person and people around me must exhibit that and be 100 percent performers."

announcement that longtime AIDS activist Dick Pabich would be brought on board full time to serve as his HIV/AIDS liaison.

"The mayor's office will now have a focus point for the public to access this office. Dick Pabich's selection by me is comparable, in my opinion, to what [President] Clinton attempted to do with his 'AIDS Czar,'" Brown said, making it clear he expects the office to be effective. It probably will be; as the mayor noted, "I'm a 24-hour a day person and people around me must exhibit that and be 100 percent performers."

Numerous other recommendations made in the summit's preliminary report are being evaluated by Pabich and health officials. One issue that is currently out of Brown's control is the fate of Dennis Peron's Cannabis Cultivator's Club and others; Attorney General Dan Lungren has been waging war in the courts since before Proposition 215 was approved by California voters in November 1996. Things are expected to come to a head soon and the mayor was asked if the city would examine declaring a public health emergency to keep the clubs open. While specific findings are needed for such a declaration, some believe the city could successfully argue the clubs are an emergency, given medical marijuana is needed by some AIDS patients so they can adhere to powerful drug cocktails. Those experiencing success with the drugs have undetectable or very low viral loads, and some physicians think they might be less contagious since less of the virus is present.

"I think we'll have to do something to keep the substance available," the mayor said, adding some community leaders are working to

ly talented people. I was impressed with their width, breadth, and knowledge," he said of the preservationists. "Absolutely, they should help raise money for it. I hope they recognize the great need for the center."

He is confident the center will be built, and did not rule out further financial help from the city in the way of possibly providing a short term loan if the CCP board cannot resolve the Fallon Building issue and moves to another location, which is one of the alternatives they're exploring, although it appears things will work out at the present site. Brown just wants the job done.

"I want this center, at least construction, started before I run for reelection," he said. "It was dropped in my lap. I want it to be a showplace."

Following in Rudy's heels?

Brown is everywhere; his daily schedule almost always includes appearances at numerous functions, from AIDS benefits to presenting the Bammie Award for outstanding album to San Francisco rockers Third Eye Blind at last Saturday's event. "Looking out from here, this place looks like a cannabis club," Brown cracked from the stage as the crowd in a cloud of haze at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium whooped it up.

He has been likened to New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, though the two are on opposite sides of the political spectrum. Last year Giuliani appeared in drag at a fundraiser; Brown was asked if he would follow in Giuliani's high heels, so to speak.

"I've got bad legs!" laughed the mayor, although he didn't rule out the possibility. ▼

Foothills College to hold transgender panel

by Liz Highleyman

The Women's Coalition of Foothills College will sponsor a transgender discussion panel this Monday, March 16. The forum, part of the school's Women's History Month program, is free and open to the general public.

The panel will feature three transsexual women. Brenda Marie Altman is a graduate of Hastings College of Law and has worked as a volunteer with the Volunteer Legal Services Program of the San Francisco Bar Association, San Francisco Friends of the Urban Forest, and ETVC. She is a member of the National Organization for Women, the National Association of Female Executives, and the National Lawyers Guild. Altman is a heterosexually-identified pre-operative male to female transsexual.

Vicky Kolakowski is a lesbian attorney, activist, and minister who transitioned as a law student in Louisiana. She has served as president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and



Vicky Kolakowski

has run twice for public office. In 1995, she was named an Outstanding Woman of Berkeley for her work on behalf of the lesbian and gay community, including co-authoring the city's domestic partner law. She is a candidate for ordination in the Metropolitan Community Churches and is completing an M.A. at the Pacific School of Religion. Kolakowski is

co-chair of the Bay Area Transgender Law Association and is a regular contributor to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Anne Marie Tobias is a bisexually-identified post-operative transsexual who has been involved with several organizations including the Lesbian Avengers and the Transsexual Menace. Tobias is of mixed Chinese/American heritage, and was born in Taiwan and raised in the U.S.

Panel organizer Antonia Kao said, "I am particularly excited to place this panel within the context of Women's History Month. A panel of women whose personal histories began as men's or boys' histories pushes the envelope of what Women's History Month means in most people's minds. And pushing envelopes, I think, is always a good thing." ▼

The panel will take place from 7:30-9 p.m. at Foothill College Middlefield Campus, Room 1-3. The college is located at 4000 Middlefield Road in Los Altos Hills in Santa Clara County.

Kuehl puts teeth in hate crimes law for TGs

by Marghe Covino
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

California State Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Sheila Kuehl introduced legislation designed to strengthen the section of the state's hate crimes law regarding prosecution of gender hate crimes on Wednesday, February 18.

Current law is not clear, and Kuehl indicates that some district attorneys fail to prosecute hate crimes committed because the perpetrator feels the victim's appearance or behavior to be gender-inappropriate. In fact, current law does indicate that hate crimes based upon actual or perceived gender and actual or perceived sexual orientation are prosecutable. Although such hate crimes against transgendered persons can be legally prosecuted under those statutes, only a few district attorney's offices — such as those in Los Angeles or San Francisco — are actually pursuing such cases.

In a statement issued Wednesday, March 4 Kuehl took aim at gubernatorial candidate Dan Lungren in his role as attorney



Sheila Kuehl

general. "Sadly," she said, "the state attorney general's office has not provided the necessary leadership when it comes to prosecuting hate crimes. I won't speculate on whether this reflects a lack of will on the attorney general's part or confusion about the law, but I can say for certain that when my bill passed the prosecutable nature of these crimes will be crystal clear."

Kuehl said, "Among the most important features of life in a democratic society are freedom of movement, freedom of expres-

sion, and freedom of association, along with the right to safety of one's own person. I believe that my bill, by helping to reduce violence, will enhance the quality of life for all Californians."

The bill, AB1999, is currently awaiting assignment to committee, probably Public Safety. One staffer told B.A.R. that historically, bills regarding transgender people have not fared well in the legislature. The staffer recalled a bill by retired State Senator Milton Marks that would have addressed right to work and discrimination against transgendered persons in the workplace: it died in committee because not one legislator was willing to deal with TG issues.

However, one legislative aide suggested that AB1999 will be useful in educating district attorneys' offices about the issue and the law. ▼

Kuehl's office will need transgendered people to testify in committee hearings. Transgendered people who have been victims of hate crimes should contact Kuehl's office and speak to Jennifer Richard at (916) 445-4956.

a life with other women was a lesbian. There are lively arguments on both sides.

We'll never know what Susan and "Dicky" did in their big double bed. What is clear is that Anthony's ties with her many female friends and companions were central to her emotional life — much as they would be for a lesbian today. She was an independent woman who eschewed marriage and children, sought out and treasured the company of

women, and devoted herself to pursuing a feminist social revolution. And that's about as "queer" as a nineteenth-century woman could get. ▼

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of *Modern Jewish History for Everyone*. He can be reached care of this publication or at AriBianco@aol.com. For more Past Out, visit www.gay.net.

Past Out

◀ page 11

marry a man" and spoke of wanting to hold her in her arms again. Were Anthony's intimate words merely the way women addressed each other at the time, or are they clues to her sexuality? Some queer historians warn against reading letters like these with twentieth-century eyes, while others maintain that any woman who makes

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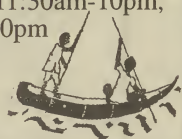
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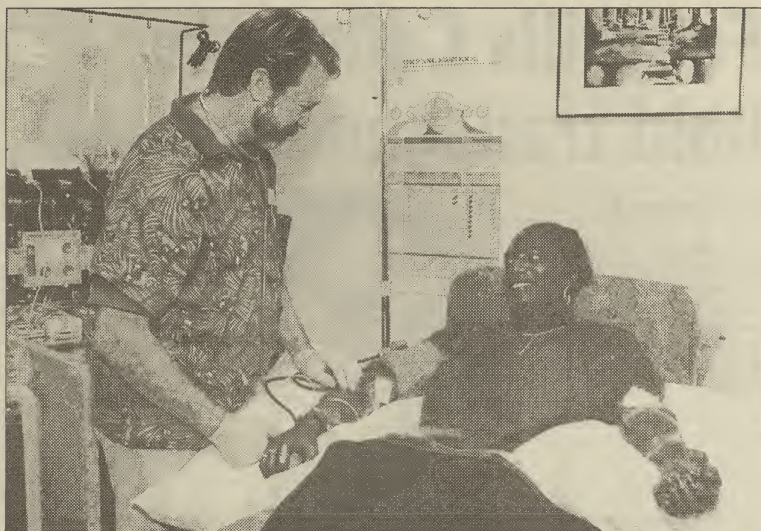
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Nurse Brian Camp (left), seen here ministering to patient Jacqui: "I worry about what can happen in a new wave of the epidemic. Other options are needed."

Boundaries crossed in ACRC HIV treatment trials

by Marv. Shaw

Although it is Jacqui who has been HIV-positive and has had her blood cells gene-modified to fight the infection, it is her mother, Dorothy, who has had to conquer her fear and hopelessness to participate in an AIDS

Community Research Consortium (ACRC) treatment trial that will provide evidence, through comparison, that the treatment is feasible.

The two African-American women have persevered in the study to where Jacqui has come from being jailed and drug-addicted to being drug-free, having her T-cells soar, her viral load drop to the undetectable level, her time served, and a new life begun as an outreach employee of the San Mateo County AIDS Program.

"I couldn't believe it," Jacqui said. "I thought, 'I just might live to see my son graduate and play pro football.'" Dorothy, a former licensed vocational nurse, went from a feeling that "she's going to die" through many a tearful night to a present position of faith that her participation has helped both her daughter and many others who will undergo that same treatment.

"Gene therapy is a potentially exciting new approach to treating a number of diseases, including HIV infection," stated Dr. Stan Deresinski, an ACRC veteran and the medical officer in charge of these treatment trials, in which blood is drawn, treated, and put back into the patient's bloodstream.

The success of the collaboration of mother and daughter marks something else that is becoming characteristic of AIDS treatment: a crossing of borders. It is becoming increasingly common for boundaries of age, generations, sexual orientation, race, and socioeconomic division to be breached as those concerned struggle to conquer HIV. Such is the observation of Michael Edell, who directs ACRC.

'Never so well'

In a recent interview with two young gay men at the ACRC office in Redwood City, the *Bay Area Reporter* got other insights into ways that such boundaries are overcome.

In the case of Brian Camp, 38, he became a research nurse through being a patient first, then a part of a study at Stanford University, where clinical trials were being conducted. Then in 1990, he joined ACRC and subsequently met Jacqui, who impressed him very much as a vivacious, upbeat

person eager to continue treatment. Brian's working with Jacqui in treatment is an illustration of how little it matters that the former is a gay white man and the latter a straight African-American woman.

Camp has also found that his identity as a specialized caregiver in an organization devoted to treatment of the HIV-infected has engendered and deepened friendships. But suspicions and fear remain — even humorously in some instances, such as the remark from his mother, who said after she had learned her son's status and professional endeavor, "You better watch out. You always picked up everything!"

Camp has also found that he has acquired a "comfort value" among the HIV-infected. Such realizations, he has found, have "enriched his life," leading him to see prospects clearly and regularly. Nevertheless, he has his fears, particularly of what can transpire in the course of the epidemic.

"I worry about what can happen in a new wave of the epidemic," he explained. "Other options are needed."

Victor Hall, 32, is a more recent participant: an HIV-negative Filipino man who lives in San Francisco but joined in the same study as Dorothy and Jacqui, though his first allegiance is as the client services manager of the Filipino Task Force on AIDS of Northern California.

In that role, Hall has found rewards, stating strongly in his response to the question of how he feels about his role, "I've never been treated so well!"

How the Filipino community regards him he does not know yet.

However, Hall finds that the Filipino community is under-represented in the anti-AIDS campaign, in his estimation. He views Filipinos as one segment of the Pacific Island community and is anxious to have greater participation throughout.

Michael Edell, the Executive Director of ACRC, welcomes initiatives which surpass previously recognized barriers, such as has happened with Dorothy and Jacqui. The organization can be reached at (650) 364-6563 in Redwood City. ▼

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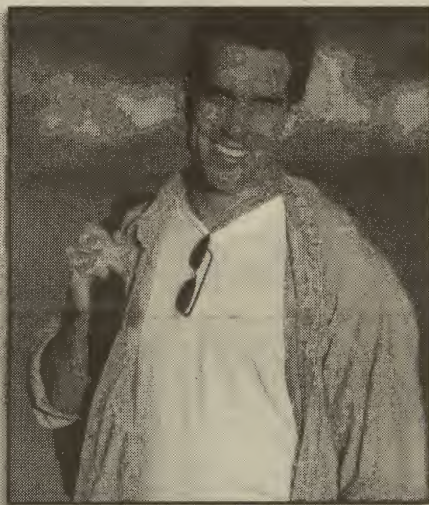
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SEROSTIM is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anticatabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide

BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM's solution. ■

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*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.

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BRIEF SUMMARY. SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION BEFORE PRESCRIBING.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Serostim® (somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection) is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 12 weeks in duration. Concomitant anti-viral therapy is necessary (see PRECAUTIONS: General). The continued use of Serostim treatment should be reevaluated in patients who continue to lose weight in the first two weeks of treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Serostim is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to growth hormone.

PRECAUTIONS: General: Serostim therapy should be carried out under the regular guidance of a physician who is experienced in the diagnosis and management of AIDS. Inadequate nutritional intake, malabsorption and hypogonadism, which are common in individuals with AIDS and which may contribute to catabolism and weight loss, should also be monitored and treated.

HIV and Growth Hormone Considerations: In some experimental systems, recombinant human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been shown to potentiate HIV replication in vitro at concentrations ranging from 50-250 ng/ml. There was no increase in virus production when the antiretroviral agents, zidovudine, didanosine or lamivudine were added to the culture medium. Additional in vitro studies have shown that r-hGH does not interfere with the antiviral activity of zalcitabine or stavudine. In the controlled clinical trials, no significant growth hormone-associated increase in viral burden was observed. However, the protocol required all participants to be on concomitant nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of the study. In view of the potential for acceleration of virus replication, it is recommended that HIV+ patients be maintained on nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of Serostim treatment.

Increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly in the hands and feet) and musculoskeletal discomfort (pain, swelling and/or stiffness) may occur during treatment with Serostim, but may resolve spontaneously, with analgesic therapy, or after reducing the frequency of dosing (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Carpal tunnel syndrome may occur during treatment with Serostim. If the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome do not resolve by decreasing the weekly number of doses of Serostim, it is recommended that treatment be discontinued.

Patients should be informed that allergic reactions are possible and that prompt medical attention should be sought if an allergic reaction occurs. None of the 188 study participants with AIDS wasting who were evaluable for antibody assessments and who were treated with Serostim for the first time developed detectable antibodies to growth hormone (> 4 pg binding). Patients were not rechallenged.

Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been associated with acute pancreatitis.

Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. Serostim use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Patients with other risk factors for glucose intolerance should be monitored closely during Serostim therapy.

No cases of intracranial hypertension (IH) have been observed among patients with AIDS wasting treated with Serostim. The syndrome of IH, with papilledema, visual changes, headache, and nausea and/or vomiting has been reported in a small number of children with growth failure treated with growth hormone products. Nevertheless, funduscopic evaluation of patients is recommended at the initiation and periodically during the course of Serostim therapy.

Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, and other malignancies are common in HIV+ individuals. There was no increase in the incidence of Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, or in the progression of cutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma in clinical studies of Serostim. Patients with internal KS lesions were excluded from the studies. Potential effects on other malignancies are unknown.

Information For Patients: Patients being treated with Serostim should be informed of the potential benefits and risks associated with treatment. Patients should be instructed to contact their physician should they experience any side effects or discomfort during treatment with Serostim. It is recommended that Serostim be administered using sterile, disposable syringes and needles. Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal and cautioned against any reuse of needles and syringes. An appropriate container for the disposal of used syringes and needles should be employed. Patients should be instructed to rotate injection sites to avoid lipodystrophy.

Drug Interactions: Formal in vitro drug interaction studies have not been conducted. No data are available on drug interactions between Serostim and HIV protease inhibitors or the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term animal studies for carcinogenicity have not been performed with Serostim. There is no evidence from animal studies to date of Serostim-induced mutagenicity or impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits. Doses up to 5 to 10 times the human dose, based on body surface area, have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to Serostim. There are, however, no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Women: It is not known whether Serostim is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Serostim is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: In two placebo-controlled clinical trials in which 205 patients were treated with Serostim the most common adverse reactions judged to be associated with Serostim were musculoskeletal discomfort and increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly of the hands and feet) (see PRECAUTIONS: General). These symptoms were generally rated by investigators as mild to moderate in severity and usually subsided with continued treatment. Discontinuations as a result of these events were rare.

Table 1: Controlled Trials Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Serostim (n=205)		Placebo (n=150)	
	%		%	
Musculoskeletal discomfort	53.7		33.3	
Fever	31.2		29.3	
Increased tissue turgor	27.3		2.7	
Diarrhea	25.9		20.0	
Neuropathy	25.9		17.3	
Nausea	25.9		16.0	
Headache	19.0		20.7	
Abdominal pain	17.1		18.7	
Fatigue	17.1		16.0	
Leukopenia	15.1		24.7	
Albuminuria	15.1		9.3	
Granulocytopenia	14.1		21.3	
Lymphadenopathy	14.1		16.0	
Increased sweating	14.1		8.7	
Anorexia	12.2		9.3	
Anemia	12.2		8.7	
Vomiting	11.7		12.0	
SGOT increased	11.7		6.0	
Insomnia	11.2		9.3	
Tachycardia	11.2		6.0	
Hyperglycemia	10.2		6.0	
SGPT increased	10.2		5.3	

Because of the diverse clinical manifestations of AIDS, and the frequent occurrence of adverse events associated with underlying disease process, it was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with the administration of Serostim from underlying signs or symptoms of AIDS or associated intercurrent illnesses.

Clinical adverse events which occurred during the first 12 weeks of study in at least 10% of those who received Serostim during the two placebo-controlled trials are listed below by treatment group, without regard to causality assessment.

Adverse events that occurred in 1% to less than 10% of study participants receiving Serostim in the two placebo-controlled clinical efficacy studies are listed below by body system. The list of adverse events has been compiled regardless of causal relationship to Serostim.

Body as a Whole: rigors, flu-like symptoms, back pain, malaise, asthenia, carpal tunnel syndrome (see PRECAUTIONS: General), chest pain, hot flashes, allergic reaction. **Gastrointestinal System:** oral leukoplakia, flatulence, dyspepsia, dry mouth, constipation, ulcerative stomatitis, increased amylase, dysphagia, esophagitis, colitis, pancreatitis, rectal disorder, gastritis, tongue ulceration, gingivitis. **Musculoskeletal System:** muscle weakness. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** dizziness, convulsions, hyperreflexia, tremor, encephalopathy, nystagmus, meningism. **Respiratory System:** dyspnea, coughing, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, rhinitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, increased sputum, respiratory disorder, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, pleurisy. **White Blood Cell and Reticuloendothelial System Disorders:** cervical lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia. **Skin and Appendages:** skin disorder, folliculitis, rash, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction, erythematous rash, pruritus, abnormal pigmentation, seborrhea, dermatitis, skin ulceration, acne, skin discoloration, verruca. **Psychiatric:** depression, anxiety, somnolence, nervousness, appetite increased, amnesia, abnormal thinking. **Metabolic and Nutritional:** hypertriglyceridemia, increased alkaline phosphatase, dehydration, increased creatinine phosphokinase, increased LDH, glycosuria, hypokalemia, cachexia, thirst, acidosis. **Immune System Dysfunction:** moniliasis, bacterial infection, Pneumocystis carinii infection, viral infection, infection, Herpes simplex, sepsis, abscess, fungal infection, Herpes zoster. **Urinary System:** hematuria, urinary tract infection, nocturia. **Liver and Biliary System:** abnormal hepatic function, hepatomegaly, hepatitis. **Vision:** retinitis, abnormal vision, photophobia. **Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting:** thrombocytopenia, purpura. **Cardiovascular, General:** abnormal ECG, heart murmur, hypertension, hypotension. **Application Site:** injection site pain, injection site reaction. **Neoplasms:** Kaposi's sarcoma. **Male Reproductive:** epididymitis, penis disorder, inguinal hernia. **Hearing and Vestibular:** earache, ear disorder, decreasing hearing. **Endocrine:** gynecomastia, male breast pain.

The types and incidences of adverse events reported in an open-label, extension trial and in a single, foreign trial, for up to one year, were not different from, or greater in frequency, than those observed in the primary, placebo-controlled, clinical trials.

OVERDOSAGE

Glucose intolerance can occur with overdosage. Long-term overdosage with growth hormone could result in signs and symptoms of acromegaly.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serostim® (somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection) should be administered subcutaneously daily at bedtime according to the following dosage recommendations:

Weight Range	Dose*
>55 kg	6 mg SC daily
45-55 kg	5 mg SC daily
35-45 kg	4 mg SC daily

*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg.

In patients who weigh less than 35 kg, Serostim should be administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg subcutaneously daily at bedtime. Dose reductions for side effects felt to be related to treatment with Serostim, which are unresponsive to symptomatic treatment, may be effected by reducing the total daily dose or the number of doses given per week.

In patients who continue to lose weight at week 2, reevaluate for concurrent opportunistic infections or other clinical events.

Injection sites should be rotated.

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

Each vial of Serostim 5 mg or 6 mg is reconstituted with 1 mL sterile water for injection. To reconstitute Serostim, inject the diluent into the vial of Serostim aiming the liquid against the glass vial wall. Swirl the vial with a gentle rotary motion until contents are dissolved completely. The Serostim solution should be clear immediately after reconstitution. **DO NOT INJECT** Serostim if the reconstituted product is cloudy immediately after reconstitution or refrigeration. Occasionally, after refrigeration, small colorless particles may be present in the Serostim solution. This is not unusual for proteins like Serostim.

STABILITY AND STORAGE

Before reconstitution: Serostim should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Expiration dates are stated on product labels.

After reconstitution: Use within 24 hours after reconstitution with diluent. The reconstituted solution should be stored under refrigerated conditions (36° - 46°F/2° - 8°C).

Sterile Diluent, 1 mL (Sterile Water for Injection, USP) should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Avoid freezing vials of Serostim and Sterile Diluent.

HOW SUPPLIED

Serostim is available in the following forms:

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Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0005-7

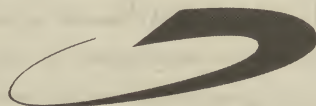
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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Billy Ray Blasingame

Sept. 1, 1943 – March 5, 1998



While Bill's passing at the Zen Center Hospice came quickly and peacefully, the courage and tenacity he mustered over the past several years in his gallant battle with AIDS was a source of inspiration to all who knew him. Ironically, Billy's death came two years, nearly to the day, after the passing of his late partner, Brian Jones.

Billy Ray began his life in Texas, the son of Jeanne and the late Raymond Blasingame. He received his bachelor's from East Texas State University and later earned a master's in education, with an eye toward a teaching career.

During the great influx of the 1970s, Billy made his move to his new home: San Francisco. His professional career flourished after being hired by Bank of America. There he advanced up the corporate ladder to a vice presidency until illness forced his retirement.

Tennis was Billy's passion. He was a member of the Gay/Lesbian Tennis Fed-

eration, and one of its top players and supporters. Even in declining health, he managed to win the Consolation C-Singles Finals in 1996.

In addition to his mother, Billy is survived by two brothers, Michael and Guy, and his special friends, Arndt Hansen, Les Balmain, Michael Polansky, George Teranishi and John Tom. At his request, no formal memorial service was conducted. However, his cremains were joined together forever with Brian's at San Francisco's Columbarium.

Russell A. Caldwell

Dec. 16, 1959 – March 3, 1998



Russell A. Caldwell passed away after a gallant battle with AIDS on March 3 in Concord, Calif., while basking in the sun surrounded by loved ones.

Russell was born in Hawaii and lived most of his wonderful life in the Bay Area. He is survived by his lover of two years, Franklin Sanders; mother, Mary E. Graham of San Bruno, Calif.; father, Russell J. Caldwell of Burlingame, Calif.; brother, Martin of Antioch, Calif.; and sisters, Elena Trimmer of Concord and Leanna Eaton of Orangevale, Calif.

Russell will be greatly missed by all, especially his favorite nephews, Danny and Dakota; niece, Miranda; and a host of friends and relatives. A special thanks to his hospice nurses, Chris and Mary, and Dr. O'Brien of Alta Bates Hospital for the wonderful care and comfort they provided.

An informal memorial celebration of Russell's life will be held in Golden Gate Park sometime in April. For more information, please e-mail: martin386@aol.com. In lieu of flowers, donations in Russell's name should be made to the National AIDS Memorial Grove.

Russell, you will always be in my heart. I miss you! Love, your brother Martin

Jay Baxter DeLane

June 3, 1961 – March 7, 1998



Jay passed away in his sleep at 8:05 a.m. at Laguna Honda Hospice. A native of Decatur, Ill., he had made San Francisco his adopted and beloved new home since 1990.

Jay was preceded in death by his father, John DeLane. He is survived by his loving mother, Jean DeLane of Decatur; sister, Julie; niece, Becki; nephew, Kevin; godparents, Erma and G.P. Clark; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

His longtime companion of seven years, Melvin Wayne Tipton, and their kitty, Miss Stella Anne DeLane, ask that Jay be lovingly remembered as a loving, caring person who was deeply cherished by a vast circle of friends.

You can rest now, Jay Bird. You live on in all of our hearts and memories. A private memorial will be held at Jay and Melvin's Larkin Street home overlooking the city.

Larry Palmer

May 12, 1957 – Jan. 12, 1998



As a friend and artist, you will be missed, but by far not forgotten. Your extreme madness has left a legacy of a true artist relating to "the dark side of art extraordinaire." And to all you pedestrians: the painted swimming sperms of SoMa will be in our consciousness forever. Back to perpetual motion...

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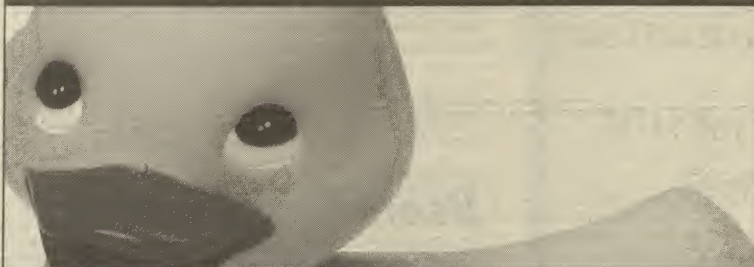
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Chop

by Jim Provenzano

Allen Wood fights stereotypes. Not only as a gay man, but as a martial artist. Don't make associations between violence and karate, or any of the many martial arts. Like the name says, it is an art. Got that?

The successful dentist, who recently worked on the Board and Uniform Committee of Team San Francisco, has been studying karate and other martial arts for over 20 years, including the Korean-style that film actor Chuck Norris incorporates in his smash-'em-up action movies.

There goes another stereotype. A 35-year-old gay man who likes Chuck Norris?

"He's a good guy!" Wood defends. "He's the president of our organization. In movies, the techniques are done well, for what they are," i.e., more realistic than his comic contemporary Jackie Chan.

But it wasn't easy getting into karate, despite Wood's understandable appreciation of the

great god of all martial artists, Bruce Lee. "I wanted to do karate lessons when I was a kid, but my parents couldn't afford it when I was in school." He credits his stepdad, who had a brown belt, with encouraging, and financing, his passion. He progressed so quickly that he started teaching at 17.

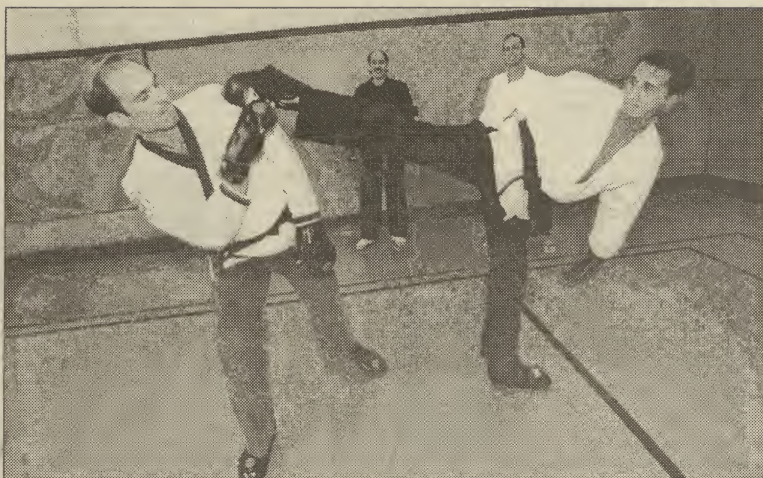
Wood's first Gay Games experience was in Vancouver in 1990.

"I didn't know too much about it, just signed up and went." He competed with over 100 other queer athletes for the first time.

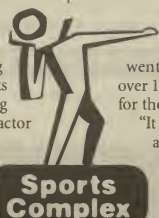
"It was really great, but very atypical for the normal tournaments in many ways. Mostly when you go to a tournament there will be beginners and a few black belts.

Usually women are about 10 percent of the competitors."

At Gay Games, though, women comprise over 60 percent of competitors. By 1994, in New York, the event had grown to 250 competitors. "It was quite exciting to have 2,000 spectators." The level of competition is very high. Men's and Women's events are



Not in the face: Allen Wood and Jim Nickoff spar as Jay Schnyder and David Lebovitz watch. All four are going to Gay Games V as members of the Intl. Association of Gay and Lesbian Martial Arts.



Sports Complex

Calling all jocks

Team San Francisco Meeting! Meet fellow jocks at the next Team SF meeting, this Saturday, 3pm, March 14, at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood Street at 18th Street, in San Francisco's ever-popular Castro District. This will be the first official assembly of the 1998 Board. You can join Team SF, get information about uniforms, Gay Games updates and other information. Be there! For further info, call (415) 522-2386.

Also, the B.A.R.'s Sports Complex has folks lined up for profiles in all the major sports, but if are you going to Gay Games to compete in Billiards, Bodybuilding, Bridge, Chess, Wheelchair Dancing, Judo, or Table Tennis, I wanna hear from you! E-mail me at jimpro@gay.net. Get another chunk of your 15 minutes of fame!

— J.P.

separate, except in the weapons category.

But don't expect any beheadings a la *Ninja Warriors Part 15*. "You don't hit each other," Wood explains. There are a series of competitions and self-defense events as well.

What kind of turnout does he expect in Amsterdam? "The Dutch have always had people and have done really well," he said. "The one thing that will happen at this Games is that in several European countries there's a system of competing. The World Karate Federation encompasses five Japanese styles popular in Germany and Holland. The karate tournament only includes five styles."

This may explain what some see as a confusion of listings. With 30 sports, three of the categories are martial arts or karate. The other two categories, Judo and Martial Arts, will encompass Judo, Weapons, Sport Sparring, and Self Defense.

"Most of the other styles

would not have been able to compete," explained Wood. "So we petitioned to have an open style. What they gave us was a karate tournament and a martial arts tournament. If you compete in karate you can still compete in martial arts."

Empowering self-defense

Wood was pivotal in creating the International Association of Gay & Lesbian Martial Artists, which, among other things, helps to expand the definition of events. "The philosophy is based on inclusion, gender parity, and opening opportunities for people with disabilities, bringing as many people in as possible."

"The group kept growing, so we developed brochures and all that. In 1994 we had such a successful tournament and seminars that we wanted to insure that quality was passed on in future Games, so we became a non-profit, with a board of directors."

Since then the IAGLMA has a seat on the Federation of Gay Games, and helps develop other gay sporting events, such as the recent 1996 Berlin tournament at EuroGames, and the Philadelphia Pride Fest in 1997.

They've also done several self-defense workshops for the queer community. But despite the association that martial arts may be more popular with queers, due to the fact that they are often more subjected to anti-queer violence

and want to defend themselves, Wood stresses the difference between the art form, self-defense, and the violent movie stereotypes about martial arts.

"There is some overlap but, most gays and lesbians are interested in self-defense. I think it empowers people. They don't feel like they can be victimized. At least they feel they have an option, and are therefore less likely to be victimized. For gay men, our concern is being seen as wimps. Like with the wrestling and boxing, there's gay people doing karate. I think it sends a good message out there. A lot of people have felt alone doing martial arts and couldn't let their instructors know."

What does he think of other martial arts like pancrase and more hybrid, media-created fights and events? "They serve a purpose. People like to see the different styles. People are starting to see what works, situations where there aren't any rules, adjusting their training accordingly."

"It has fostered the stereotype that martial arts are violent, or that training in martial arts you will get hurt. They think, 'I don't wanna get the crap beat out of me by an instructor!' But people of all ages can do it."

For more information on Martial Arts, call Allen Wood at (415) 563-0404. For information on women and girls' jujitsu and self-defense classes in Oakland, call Joann Strang at (510) 530-5043. ▼

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Boom Boom Tuesday!

by Jim Provenzano

San Leandro is the home of lesbian boxer and Junior Middleweight World Champion Gina Guidi, and her city is proud to show her off! Tuesday, March 17 will be "Gina Guidi Day!"

Guidi won the IFBA Junior middleweight World Title on February 15, and will be bestowed the honor of having Tuesday be her own day.

Guidi began boxing 18 years ago and currently holds two title belts: the Junior middleweight World Title for the International Female Boxers' Association, and the North American Superwelterweight Title for the Women's International Boxing Federation. Her record is nine wins, one loss, and one draw. Five of her wins were by knockout.

The event will take place next week at the Mayor's Chambers in San Leandro. Be there Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m., at the San Leandro City Hall, City Council Chambers, 835 East 14 Street in San Leandro. For more info, call (510) 577-3358. ▼



Lynn Gaza

COMMUNITY NEWS

Medical group rejects gay docs

by Eric M. Rose

In a decision highlighting the difficulty lesbians have obtaining adequate healthcare, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has rejected a request by the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association for exhibit space at ACOG's annual conference. ACOG, with over 37,000 members, is the nation's leading group of obstetricians and gynecologists.

"They were rejected with many others and for the same reasons: they are primarily interested in soliciting physicians to join their group," AGOC's Public Information Officer, Greg Phillips told the B.A.R. ACOG guidelines state that a group may be denied exhibition space if it is a special interest advocacy group intending to use the exhibit to "only carry out membership recruitment."

"It's very frustrating," Phillips said regarding inquiries by the press into the matter. "They make it sound like they were rejected because they're a gay group."

According to Sue Rochman, communications director at GLMA, her office made repeated attempts to get a letter explaining why they were being denied exhibition space. Rochman told the B.A.R. that on March 3, five months after GLMA requested the letter, "they faxed us saying, 'your service would not benefit or be of interest to the majority of our membership.' That to me does not say we're rejecting you because we don't allow you to recruit members at all."

"We had a number of conversations with them. When they told us they didn't want us soliciting physicians, we said, 'That's fine, we also want to get information about lesbian healthcare out to your members.'"

GLMA's Board or Directors convened in Miami on March 7, calling for a meeting with ACOG President Vicki Seltzer, MD, and voted to formally request that ACOG's decision be reversed. "We are outraged that a physicians' organization dedicated to improving women's healthcare would not understand the importance of educating its members about the

specific healthcare needs of lesbians," said GLMA President Michael Horberg, MD.

The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association is a San Francisco-based national organization of gay and lesbian physicians with over 2,000 members in all 50 states and 12 countries. GLMA's goal is to combat homophobia within the medical profession and to promote quality healthcare for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered patients.

"Lesbians often don't obtain gynecological services because they fear encountering homophobia from their gynecologists, and their health suffers because of this," explained Jocelyn White, MD, a GLMA board member and Co-editor of the *Journal of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association*. "ACOG's mission is to educate its members about all women's health issues, yet their decision to reject GLMA shows they are willing to ignore the medical needs of millions of women. Lesbian patients exist, and deserve, more." ▼

Getting on board

This is a partial list of San Francisco AIDS service organizations (ASO) and prevention agency board meetings taking place in March, plus any procedure that members of the public have to complete before attending the meeting.

AIDS Benefits Counselors
Board of Directors meeting
Thursday, March 26; 7 p.m.
1675 California Street
Conference room
Anyone can drop in;
free parking in building.
Info: (415) 703-9943

Continuum
Board of Directors meeting
Wednesday, March 18; 6 p.m.
255 Golden Gate Avenue
Non-board members need to call 24 hours in advance because it's a secured building. Leave message for board secretary at (415) 437-2900

Project Open Hand
Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday, March 17; 5:30 p.m.
730 Polk Street

Anyone can drop in.
Info: (415) 447-2468

SF AIDS Foundation
Board of Directors meeting
Wed., Mar. 25; 5:15 to 9 p.m.
10 United Nations Plaza
SFAF's procedure for public attendance at board meetings can be obtained by calling (415) 487-3070 or visiting SFAF's web site at www.sfaf.org. For board liaison, call (415) 487-3053

Shanti
Board of Directors meeting
Tuesday, March 31; 5:45 p.m.
1546 Market Street
Anyone can drop in.
Info: (415) 487-4730

Meeting information
should be sent to Cynthia Laird at the Bay Area Reporter, 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call (415) 861-5019. Local nonprofit HIV/AIDS groups may submit board meeting information by Friday, March 20 for inclusion in April's listing.

Award-winning Sacto gospel choir to do benefit for Walnut Creek MCC

by Vicky Kolakowski

The award-winning gospel choir from Cathedral of Promise Metropolitan Community Church in Sacramento will perform a benefit concert next Saturday, March 21 for the Metropolitan Community Church of the New Vision in Walnut Creek.

"We are all very excited about this wondrous event in the life of MCC of the New Vision," the church's pastor, Reverend Jack Isbell told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The recent success of the Cathedral of Promise Mass Choir under the direction of the Reverend Prentice Minner has itself been a miracle.

"I did a 'Sister Act' on the choir," Minner told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Starting with 22 people, the choir under Minner's direction has grown to over 40, representing a diversity of races and sexual orientations, including blind and other disabled members. The choir also has become one of the highest regarded gospel choirs in Northern California.

Minner is a former musical headliner and recording artist who later founded and directed a successful ministry for troubled youth, Love All People Ministries, which reached teens across the country. It was during his leadership of that ministry that he struggled with his sexual orientation.

"God had really called me to tell all the children that God loved them, but I ran from the gay children," Minner said. He came out as a gay man two years ago on Easter Sunday, which he refers to as his "second call."

While coming out ended his previous ministry, it opened the door to his leadership of the choir at the Sacramento MCC, and gave the choir an unexpected opening. Because of his history with musical ministry, Minner was invited to bring his new choir to a prestigious gathering of 26 top North-



Rev. Prentice Minner

ern California gospel choirs last October, at which they received an award for "Excellence in Choral Performance."

"They don't like to call it a competition, since they're all churches," Minner explained. "They rate the choirs, and we received the top score."

The recognition was the first for a "gay-positive" choir at such a major choir gathering.

The choir has led to a number of bookings, including a New Year's appearance at Shiloh Baptist Church in Vacaville, a church not known for being gay friendly.

The choir will perform several of their award-winning pieces at the concert in Walnut Creek, as well as Minner's testimonial drama "This is Why I Sing."

The proceeds of the concert will be used to purchase new chairs for the chapel which the church rents from Walnut Creek United Methodist Church. ▼

The Cathedral of Promise Mass Choir gospel music benefit for M.C.C. of the New Vision will be held on Saturday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m., at 1543 Sunnyvale Avenue, Walnut Creek. \$5 donation requested. For more information call (510) 283-2238.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220431
The following person(s) are doing business as Pooponies, 11 Crestline Dr., SF, CA 94131. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name on 2-01-98. This business is conducted by an individual Signed Gay G. Schofield. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 3, 1998.
FEB. 19, 26, MARCH, 05, 12, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220664
The following person(s) are doing business as International Gifts, 1177 California St., Suite # 903, SF., CA 94108. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name on N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation, Signed Steve Conn. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 12, 1998.
FEB. 19, 26, MARCH, 05, 12, 1998

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME NO. 181313.
The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: The Picnic People DBA Ann Bennett & Associates, 1177 California St., Ste. B SF., CA 94108. The fictitious-business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on 6-19-95. Signed Pamela Koeverer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County in San Francisco County on the date of Feb. 9, 1998.
FEB. 19, 26 MARCH 5, 12, 1998

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 992910
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Madeleine Isabel Smith for change of name. The application of Madeleine Isabel Smith has for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Madeleine Isabel Smith has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Madeleine Isabel Putnam. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 at on the 31st of March, 1998 at 9:00 am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 17th day of Feb. 18, 1998

Feb 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220213
The following person(s) are doing business as My favorite Orchids 112 Coleridge St. SF., CA 94110. This business is conducted by a individual signed Michel John Rumanauski. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 1-23-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan. 23, 1998.
FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220830
The following person(s) are doing business as Fumiki Tansu Warehouse 1000 Branman St. SF., CA 94103. This business is conducted by a individual signed Fumiki Abe. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 20, 1998.
FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220755
The following person(s) are doing business as Research Matters 2599 Diamond St. SF., CA 94131. This business is conducted by a individual signed Gary L. Rocchio. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 2-18-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 18, 1998.
FEB 26 MAR. 5, 12, 19 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221032
The following person(s) are doing business as Jim's Collectables and Gifts, 500 Wisconsin San Francisco, CA 94107. This business is conducted by a individual signed James E. Nally. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-01-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 02, 1998.
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220909
The following person(s) are doing business as Recipes of Love, 120 Webster St. #4, SF., CA 94117. This business is conducted by a N/A signed Rod I. Nelson. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on Feb 24, 1998. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 24, 1998.
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 993025

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Larry Brown, for change of name. The application of Larry Brown has for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Larry Brown has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Hillary Shehova Brown. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 at on the 30th of March, 1998 at 9:00 am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 18th day of Feb. 18, 1998.
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221000
The following person(s) are doing business as Kaiaulu, 53 Landers St. #5, San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by a individual signed Michael Yamashita. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-01-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb 26, 1998.
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220988
The following person(s) are doing business as ZutroWeb Maker, 839 Haight St., CA 94117. This business is conducted by a individual signed Dennis Brumm. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 2-16-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb 26, 1998.
MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221122
The following person(s) are doing business as A Brief Encounter 870 Market St. #721, S.F., CA 94102. This business is conducted by a individual signed Lyle Lawrence. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-05-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 05, 1998.
MARCH, 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2, 1998

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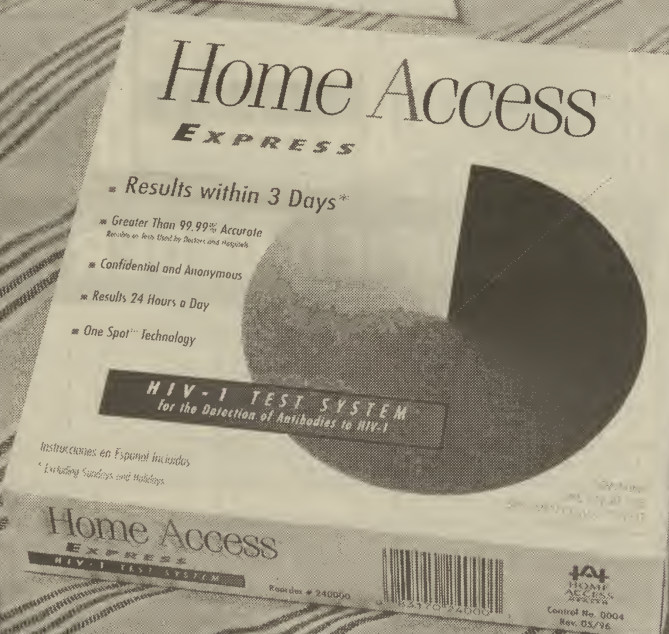
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Two solo shows that get it right:
Lisa Kron in 2.5 Minute Ride, and
David Mills in Duty Free.
pages 39, 40

Yakuza gangsters,
gay hitmen and stylish rent
boys in Takashi Ishii's Gonin.
page 43



Madonica?
New album, Ray of Light,
is techno-lite pop pap.
page 44



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 11 • 12 March 1998

Weird cosmos

Evelyn Cisneros and
Muriel Maffre in *Some*
Women and Men.

San Francisco Ballet, Programs III & IV by Stephanie von Buchau

Sir Thomas Beecham once remarked that the harpsichord sounded like "two skeletons copulating on a tin roof." Of course, he was referring to Wanda Landowska's ugly, 747-size instrument, built for her by Pleyel in Paris. I don't think even Sir Thomas would have found the amplified harpsichord played by Beatrice Beisel in the San Francisco Ballet's world premiere of James Kudelka's *Some Women and Men* anything other than dulcet.

The choreographer, on the other hand, finds the solo instrument in Poulenc's *Concerto Champetre* for Harpsichord and Orchestra to sound "weird," and has created a weird cosmos to go with his interpretation of the music. Five women and six men are dressed by Santo Loquasto in Renaissance mountebank costumes, the men with leather S&M straps and the women in puffy panniers that stick out behind them and are draped with wispy white cloths. The movement in this

three-part piece is slow and minimal. Arms are held at odd, 90-degree angles, and hips are thrust sideways.

Part of the time these weird folk, led by bouncy Christopher Stowell, look like marionettes twitching to Kudelka's pull on their strings. Yet in the slow movement, a bewitching *scilicet*, the dancers emit a strange erotic glow. Muriel Maffre and Evelyn Cisneros definitely prefer dancing with each other to pair-

page 46 ▶

De'Ath in Venice

'Love and Death on Long Island'

by Gary Morris

Thomas Mann is not exactly common source material for today's filmmakers, even at a time when the work of once-untouchable classic novelists like Jane Austen, E.M. Forster and even Virginia Woolf is being hauled onto screens in multiplexes across America. So *Love and Death on Long Island*, adapted from a minor novel by British film critic Gilbert Adair, comes as a bit of a surprise. While not a direct adaptation of *Death in Venice*, the film is unmistakably a cut-rate revamp (with a dash of *Lolita*), tracking the pathetic progress of an unrequited, indeed barely expressed, gay love affair. This time John Hurt stands in for repressed old queen Gustave von Aschenbach, and Jason Priestley offers his doughy charms in a teen-idol reincarnation of the transcendental Tadzio.

The film, written and directed by Richard Kwietniowski, opens in autumnal colors, with stuffy Brit academic Giles De'Ath (get it?) emerging from the pain of his wife's death into a modern world that he's always steadfastly ignored. This "erstwhile fogey," as one of the newspapers calls him, acci-

page 42 ▶

John Hurt and Jason Priestley in
Love and Death on Long Island.



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Weharco

by Roberto Friedman
and Danny Mangin

How low-key were things on March 9 at the second annual Gay and Lesbian Music Awards ceremony in Manhattan? So low-key that the GLAMA festivities started right on time at 7 p.m. — with a rousing number by **Toshi Reagon**, who told the assembled to “sit down, the show’s starting” — and ended before 10. So low-key that **SONIA** of disappear fear didn’t appear to notice the cameras clicking away as she smooched (or was that just a friendly hug?) backstage with a galpal after accepting the award for band of the year. So low-key that **RuPaul** didn’t even wear a dress.

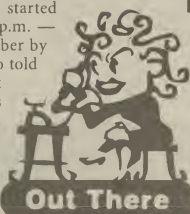


RuPaul

Then again, emcee **Suzanne Westenhoefer** didn’t wear one, and neither did k.d. lang, who was so mellow she seemed almost tipsy as she greeted the crowd with a sultry “Hi, homos.” Lang was at the event to receive the **Michael Callen Medal of Achievement** for being such a highly visible gay performer. Most of the other lesbians were also riffing off **Marlene Dietrich** on this most GLAMArus of nights. Only gay men and the few straight women showed their legs, which meant that the humble and gra-

cious Ru, who’d donned a trench coat and a turtleneck to accept the Outmusic Award — for being such a highly visible gay performer — was in drag after all. Well, sort of.

The entertainers on this most GLAMArus of nights were nothing if not an eclectic bunch.



Out There

Fred Hersch tinkled some tasteful bars of Rogers and Hammerstein on a baby grand, and **Marieann Meringolo** performed a pop standard with subtle beauty. “It’s a little slow but I kinda dig it,” opined a certain **fag rocker who thinks grunge is**

still the latest. As if to placate said philistine — and everyone else who’d found the proceedings a bit short on drama — onto the stage flew club artist **Kevin Aviance**, who got the first standing O of the evening for his orgasmically frenetic performance. Later in the show came **The Murmurs**, whose **Leisha Hailey** is k.d.’s current squeeze. The M’s, who got our vote for lesbian garage band of the year (unfortunately not an official GLAMA category), played their three chords with inspired vengeance.



Tom Robinson

Who won on this most GLAMArus of nights, you ask? **Tom Robinson** snagged three awards (and you thought the ’70s were over), for Male Artist of the Year, Out Song, and Out Recording. His recognition must have been for being a highly visible formerly gay performer — he’s been living with a woman for several years. The program described Robinson’s vocals as “wizedened,” which left the singer-songwriter baffled. “I guess it means I’m getting old,” he told Out There.

Doing Michael Jackson

Me'Shell Ndegocello was named Female Artist of the Year and also won for Video of the Year (for “Leviticus: Faggot”). Me'Shell couldn’t make it to the ceremony, so her pal **Julie Larson** — who was introduced a couple of times



Me'Shell Ndegocello

as an A&R person at Reprise even though she was fired about a year ago — accepted her awards. Cabaret artist **Julie Budd**, who gets around even less than our **New York correspondent**, thought Larson was Ndegocello and congratulated her for her fine work. “Yeah, I let my hair grow out a little and did a little **Michael Jackson** thing,” said Larson.

As for the other awards, the **Indigo Girls** won for Duo/Group; **Amasong** beat out the **SF Gay Men's Chorus** and three other ensembles for Choral Group; **Karen Pernick** was named Debut Artist; **Catie Curtis** had the Album of the



Catie Curtis

Year; **Joi Cardwell** (who “practically had clubland running to church”) grabbed the prize in the Dance Music category; **Fred Hersch** got the nod in Instrumental; **Suzanne Westenhoefer** won for Comedy; and **Anthony Rapp**, who performed a number from the musical *Rent*, was a crowd favorite for Music in a Dramatic Setting.

Most of the winners were pleasant and grateful, and the banter was brief if largely unmemorable. Ms. lang was ceaselessly polite, at the pre-event news conference — when she answered innumerable inane questions (many about the cancellation of *Ellen*) before signing a slew of autographs for the journalists who were supposed to be interviewing her — during the ceremony, and at the party afterward. We did

page 54 ►

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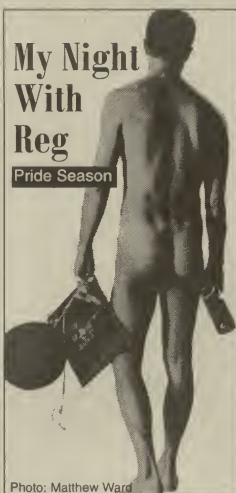


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Mesmerizing journey

Lisa Kron in '2.5 Minute Ride'

by Jerry Metzker

Sometimes a theater piece is just magical. The lights come up, the character begins to speak, and right at that moment, the audience is mesmerized. Such is the effect of Lisa Kron's new monologue, *2.5 Minute Ride*, currently playing at the Magic Theatre.

One of the founding members of the Five Lesbian Brothers, Kron has paid several visits to San Francisco. Most recently, she appeared with the Brothers in *Brides of the Moon*, and a few years ago, she performed another monologue, *101 Humiliating Stories*, to great success here. Where the group performances are boldly satirical, her solo work is far more subtle and eloquent.

In *2.5 Minute Ride*, Kron takes a journey in search of her father's essence. At 74, the retired lawyer lives with his wife and family in Lansing, Michigan, and is just as proud of his lesbian daughter as he is of his straight son. Although he has always been a part of her life, Kron feels as though she doesn't really know him.

In 1937, at age 14, he was part of the Kindertransport Project, in which endangered Jewish children were evacuated from Germany to save them from Nazi persecution. What little information the family has recovered indicates that his parents were eventually murdered at Auschwitz. During the process of her journey, Kron takes her father there, as well as to his homeland for the first time since he left. Throughout the monologue, Kron relates incidents that occurred during this trip and juxtaposes them with an annual family outing to the Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio, and with her brother's wedding to his online girlfriend in New York.

Ironic perspective

Kron's father's life is fascinating, and in living it, he has developed an ironic perspective that is hard to disagree with. In one of the most moving stories Kron retells, her father served as an interrogator of suspected Nazi war criminals after the conclusion of the War. One of his suspects is an alleged Gestapo agent with a tough constitution. Only after great physical deprivation does the man crack, but what he still doesn't understand is how everything he was taught as moral and right could possibly have been so immoral and wrong. "If I hadn't had the good fortune to have been born a Jew," Kron's father concludes, "I could have been that man."



Lisa Kron

It is this simple but ironic approach to life that Mr. Kron relates to his daughter again and again.

In spite of its seriousness, the play never gets depressing. If Kron has inherited one trait from her father, it is this same gift for irony. Great chunks of the play are simply hilarious, including the details of her brother's wedding, and the family's journey to the amusement park.

The title of the piece comes from the length of time it takes to ride the amusement park's Mean Streak roller coaster. Kron rides

with her elderly father and narrates the harrowing experience.

"Two point five minutes is a really long time on a roller coaster if you're having a good time," she explains. "If you think the experience is killing your father, it's a really, really long time."

Upon disembarking at ride's end, fearing that her father won't even be able to walk, Kron hears the most shocking thing she has ever heard from him: "Let's do it again!"

In *2.5 Minute Ride*, Kron has taken the craft of storytelling and transformed it into art. Using only a couple of chairs, a small table, and some terrific light tricks (designed by Susan A. White), Kron creates not just pictures for the mind, but the essences of her characters. Although earlier incarnations of the piece utilized a director, now she credits only creative consultant Mark Brokaw. Aside from rushing at a couple of points, her demeanor is so casual, her delivery so effortless, and her sense of purpose so clear that being in the audience is an experience of exquisite pleasure. ▼

2.5 Minute Ride runs through March 21 at the Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. Call 646-0880 for tickets.

Conscious rap



The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre presents *2017*, a hip-hop musical about AIDS in the African-American community, performed by Midnight Voices (left to right: Denise Delgado-Groce, Vijay Iyer, Will Power, Mohammed Bilal, and Liberty Ellman) and directed by Will Power. *2017* opens tonight, March 12, and runs through March 22 at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter. Call 474-8800. ▼

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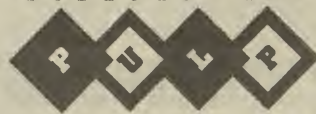
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David Mills in 'Duty Free'

Cigarettes and underpants

by Heidi Beeler

If you like your media satire with a bite, then you won't want to miss David Mills' *Duty Free*, playing at Intersection for the Arts through this Sunday. In

his first full production since the Solo Mio Festival last fall, Mills takes the audience on a wild romp through tabloid television, gay theater, and gay media images, and he delivers some hilarious black eyes all around.

The piece opens with a white

trash family tableau. It's Flag Day, and the family of Helvetica Bold is posing for a photo at their picnic table amidst the Cool Whip and the cartons of Lucky Strikes. The entire family smokes like an industrial plant, and their health proves it. Dad's in an iron lung.

The twins are Siamese. Helvetica snuffles through the plastic tube in her trachea that her Scotch terrier has just died of second-hand smoke. "The tobacco company killed my dog!" she wails in a cry that sets off a media frenzy and leads to fabulous prizes in court settlements, talk show spots, and product endorsements.

Juxtaposed against this story, character David slogs through the last dregs of a stalled relationship. Before he and Jesse can have their Last Talk, though, they realize they have tickets to the latest gay theater sensation, *Full Frontal*, the play that "finally tells the truth about gay life." There, they watch buff part-time porn stars parade their packages through every gay cliché in the book, as they struggle to find meaning in their own situation.

High energy

The show was driven by Mills' high-energy performance of his witty material. This was no simple staged reading of a solo story. The production was directed by Danny Scheie, who most recently starred in and directed Rhino's *Last Hairdresser*, and his comic collaboration came through in the inventive staging. Whether Mills was climbing on top of the piano or stomping backstage, or delivering rapid-fire media references from a white plastic lawn chair, his characters filled the space, no small feat in a theater space like Intersection's, which is something of a cinderblock cavern. And Mills switched effortlessly among a cast of thousands, ranging from newscaster Anita Garcia-Chung-King-Begyne-Begyne to Franciscan monk and part-time porn star Matt.

Video footage by Please Louise



David Mills

Productions lent some media accents to this show about the media's influence on our lives. Played on three television monitors, images of commercial products spinning on a lazy Susan, radio transmitters, and television crews added some interesting visual elements to Mills' descriptions. The billboards of Lucky Strike cigarettes and Calvin Klein underwear, prominent in Jon Lowe's set design, created a scenic link between the two parallel stories. Live piano music was provided by David Buuck — a treat in this era of pervasive canned music. ▼

Duty Free runs Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. through March 15 at Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia Street. Call (415) 626-3311 for tickets and information.

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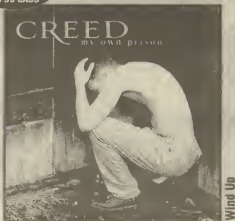
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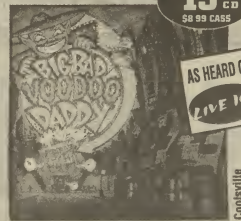
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 a film by Takashi Ishii

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Photos: JD Gamber

Labor pains

Elizabeth Ashley in 'Full Gallop'

by Richard Dodds

Said a woman to her companion as they made their way up the aisle at intermission, "This would be fine for 15 minutes as dinner-table conversation." Alas, there are two acts of *Full Gallop*, the one-woman play about Diana Vreeland now at the Stage Door Theatre, and eyes begin to glaze and laughter turns nervous as those 15 minutes grow into an enervating monologue.

By all accounts, this same monologue was a captivating affair in New York, where Mary Louise Wilson made the decidedly slight material seem something more by seamlessly melding with the Vreeland persona. Vreeland, the regal, eccentric editor of *Vogue*, was all about surfaces, and the only route to sustaining interest in this is to find a genuineness even in the superficiality. Even brief clips of Wilson's performance are mesmerizing as she delivers Vreeland's bon mots with intense conviction.

Wilson co-authored this showcase with Mark Hampton, and had planned to take it on tour before a Broadway revival of *Cabaret* changed her mind. The tour fell to Elizabeth Ashley, an actress who can tear up the stage in the right role, but who is miscast as Vreeland. The look, of course, is all wrong, but more than that, we are never able to forget that we are watching an actress at labor. It is an unconvincing performance in a role where the mechanics must not show.

The play is set in Vreeland's China-red apartment in 1971, shortly after she has been unceremoniously fired as editor of *Vogue*. Between calls from friends, she regales us with her opinions, observations and philosophies about people, life and fashion. There are occasional introspective moments, and Ashley is some-

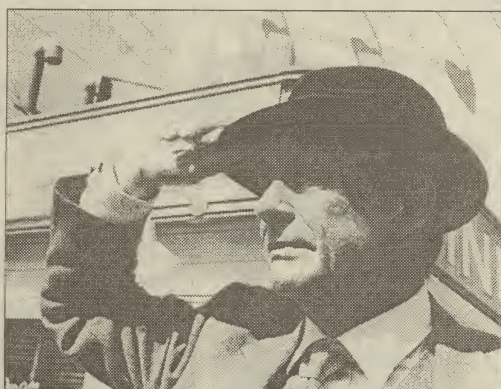
what better at exploring those than at delighting her guests with such aphorisms as "Blue jeans are the greatest invention since the gondola," and "Pink is the navy blue of India."

Of course, if this were dinner-table conversation, there would be no graceful escape until the last course was served. Theater, however, provides an intermission, an option that was gratefully exercised. ▼

Full Gallop will run at the Stage Door Theatre through April 5. Tickets are \$30 and \$55. Call 776-1999.



Elizabeth Ashley



John Hurt in *Love and Death on Long Island*.

Love and Death

◀ Arts cover

dently buys a ticket to the wrong movie; expecting an adaptation of Forster, he's suddenly faced with *Hotpants College 2*, a lowbrow American comedy in the *Porky's* mode. Bored by the pizza-scarfing, teacher-moaning antics of the story, De'Ath snaps to attention when Ronnie Bostock (Priestley) appears. You see, Ronnie's not like the other boys in the film — he's handsome and sexy, but more important, he's sensitive, and doesn't go in for the kind of rough-housing the others engage in. In one scene that especially entrances De'Ath, Ronnie gets beat up and ends up stretched out on a counter in his pizza delivery uniform in a classic martyred-boy pose.

Fetish tome

Like an obsessed teenage girl, De'Ath begins to study his new idol and collect every possible bit of trivia on him in an album he labels "Bostockiana." He at least has enough sense to hide this fetish tome from his nosy housekeeper. His passion for Ronnie has the welcome effect of bringing De'Ath out of his doldrums, but what has up to this point been a whimsical study of the minutiae of an old curmudgeon's life takes on a darker tone as De'Ath decides he must meet Ronnie. Traveling from London to Long Island on the pretext of writing a book, he becomes a classic stalker — setting up Operation Ronnie at a local adult motel, ingratiating himself with the locals, and exerting his peculiarly British hauteur on his target's trophy girlfriend, Audrey (Fiona Loewi).

Eventually he does meet his dreamboat, and fortuitously Ronnie is in the kind of artistic crisis that the sophisticated De'Ath is

ideally equipped to help him through. De'Ath tantalizes Ronnie with the idea of abandoning the lucrative *Hotpants* series in favor of High Art, as in Shakespeare. Of course, this would entail some radical personal and career moves; De'Ath insists Ronnie dump Audrey, move to England, and live with him in order to gain the benefits of an "older man's experience." One of the film's funnier moments comes when De'Ath labors to explain to a puzzled Ronnie the virtues of such an arrangement by citing a string of famous queer literateurs likewise engaged. But alas, poor Ronnie, hearing "Rimbaud," says, "Rambo?"

The film gets some comic mileage out of its movies-within-the-movie, droll excerpts from Ronnie's films like *Tex Mex* and the *Hotpants* series. And some of the early humor is sweet and sharply observed. But Hurt is playing a throwback that will disturb some audiences — the tight-lipped, aging, desperate queer of the 1950s, lusting hopelessly after 1990s boyflesh. The film persistently, but perhaps unconsciously, gives evidence of De'Ath's dark side — his extreme self-absorption, his nasty treatment of practically everyone around him — while also expecting us to sympathize with him as a tragic figure, since the film speaks literally with his voice through an overbub. But when the key moment comes in which he must face his feelings and lay them out — or maybe just pounce on Ronnie — he does so with the pitiful whimpering of a pup, eclipsing even Mann's Aschenbach in the Upright Homosexual department. ▼

Love and Death on Long Island opens Friday, March 13 at the Embarcadero Cinema.

FILM

Takashi Ishii's 'Gonin' Homo hitmen

by Gary Morris

Why do we need a faggot?" asks one of the yakuza gangsters in *Gonin*. The "faggot" in question is one of two gay hitmen hired by the "Ogoshi Talent Agency"—in reality an extortionist gang—to pick off a motley group of misfits who had the temerity to rob and assault them. This brutal, *manga*-inspired gangster film is in fact loaded with faggots. The main character is Bandai (Koichi Sato), the financially strapped gay owner of a discotheque; his partner is a stylish rent boy named Mitsuya (Masahiro Motoki); and of course there are those hitmen, Kyoyo (Beat Takeshi) and Kazuma (Kazuya Kimura). But while there's always room for more homo hitmen on cinema screens, this sleek but uneven film may have audiences, too, wondering, "Why a faggot?"

It isn't as if we see these characters in bed together, or do much else homoerotically, besides scream when their partners are

shot, or engage in a sort of grueling half-kiss that can only happen when one of the guys is dying. Of course, such objections are arguably irrelevant; in the world of the film, there's little in the way of human connection or solace, hetero or homo.

More a string of violent set-pieces than a film with a discernible linear plot, *Gonin* attacks the repressions of Japanese society through an ensemble of characters whose lives are in limbo. Ogiwara (Naoto Takenaka) is a deranged ex-corporate exec who's been downsized out of the workforce and out of his mind. Jimmy (Kippei Shiina) is a blond pimp and ex-member of the Ogoshi gang. Hizu (Jimpachi Nezu) is an ex-cop who was jailed for corruption. The film is populated by men who are "ex—" something, suggesting the instability of a society that prides itself on smooth functioning and predictability. Things become even more unstable when Kyoyo can't pay his debt to the Ogoshi gang. He's attacked in his disco, bonds with Mitsuya, and joins forces with Ogiwara,



Masahiro Motoki and Koichi Sato in *Gonin*.

Jimmy, and Hizu in a scheme to rob the Ogoshi gang.

Private hell

As male-bonding groups go, this has to be one of the most incoherent in recent memory. Ogiwara spends his time breaking into sudden wild dance routines (reminding us of his wonderful be-wigged queen routine in *Shall We Dance*) and hiding a gruesome secret about his home life. Jimmy is so obsessed with his girlfriend that when she's killed, he becomes to-

tally unhinged. Bandai and Mitsuya don't discover their mutual attraction until it's too late. In short, each of these characters suffers in his private hell, and their attack on the Ogoshi gang is the only point at which they connect, after which they scatter back into their own grim little lives, or deaths.

Writer-director Takashi Ishii, who emigrated to film after considerable success as a *manga* artist, brings a comic book sensibility to these violent proceedings, which means a strong visual sense ap-

parent in the shimmering colors, skewed angles, and slick neo-noir look. Scenes like the one where Jimmy, on a rain-soaked street, bends over his dead girlfriend, whose face is shown with a rainbow of color, resonate in spite of the fact that these characters never seem real.

Comparisons to the work of that other master of the homo-inflected gangster film, John Woo, are inevitable. And the balletic gunplay, orgiastic violence, and coded sexual assaults on the male body typical of Woo are evident here. But director Ishii isn't blessed with a Chow Yun-Fat or Tony Leung, larger-than-life actors who anchor the drama in a way that lets us respond emotionally to what we see. None of *Gonin*'s characters, gay or straight, are particularly memorable or convincingly tragic, and by the end, we're left with little more than a few striking images amongst the bullet-riddled bodies. ▼

Gonin opens on Friday, March 13 at the Lumiere Theatre.

Emir Kusturica's 'Underground' Welcome to Sarajevo

by Gary Morris

Yugoslavia as an entity will probably never exist again outside the fictional framework of the printed page or the movie screen, but director Emir Kusturica reconstructs several decades of that country's tortured history in his three-hour tour de force, *Underground*. The opening sequence starts in 1941 with a group of drunken, horn-playing revelers and whores staggering down a street at midnight, and ends with a terrifyingly real recreation of the bombing of a zoo, with elephants and tigers wandering crazed and wounded through a blasted city. This chaotic movement from pleasure to horror is the film's trajectory, its extremes brought into grim focus by the tragicomic adventures of patriotic gangster Blacky (Lazar Risoovski), his best friend

Marko (Miki Manojlovic), and an actress they both love, Natalija (Mirjana Jokovic). The film's historical sweep ranges from World War II through the ravaging civil wars of the post-Communist era, but the most powerful setting is not the real world above, but the complex underground world created by Blacky that symbolizes the burial of an entire society.

Sarajevo-born Kusturica won the 1995 Palme d'Or in Cannes for *Underground*, which caused an enormous controversy among French intellectuals who are still arguing about whether the film is pro- or anti-Fascist. Such controversies notwithstanding, *Underground*'s passionate energy and unforgettable imagery—a naked whore running through the bombed-out zoo, a couple set on fire in a wheelchair endlessly circling a tree, a monkey climbing into a tank and shooting a

rocket into an underground wedding party—put the director at the very forefront of today's filmmakers, and mark this as one of the great films of the decade. ▼

Underground plays the Castro Theatre March 13-19. Call 621-6120.



Miki Manojlovic in *Underground*.

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Electronica à la Madonna

Techno-lite 'Ray of Light'

by Adrian Roberts.

When advance buzz revealed a few months ago that Madonna had been working with acclaimed electronic music pioneer William Orbit on her upcoming album, I actually got a bit excited. Supposedly, this new record was to be the Material Girl's first foray into that hip and happening musical realm known as "electronica." And though the move reeked faintly of calculated marketing savvy, I was intrigued by the possibilities nonetheless. After all, it was Madonna who wooed techno superstars Prodigy to sign with Maverick, her vanity

record label. Perhaps some of their hard-edged techno prowess had rubbed off on Madonna.

Or ... perhaps not. Although everyone seems to be tossing around the term "electronica" to describe the sound of the just-released *Ray of Light*, her first album since 1994's R&B-flavored *Bedtime Stories*, it's certainly not the electronica of the Prodigy variety. Hell, it's not even the watered-down electronica of the Sneaker Pimps variety. No, this is electronica à la Madonna. Call it *techno-lite*. In other words, she has fashioned herself a fairly traditional pop record — exactly the sort one would expect from Madonna — but with all sorts of

electronic bleeps, drum machine rhythms, and filter sweeps as window dressing. The results are mixed, but they do give the 39-year-old singer the guise of coming off as hip and contemporary — either that, or as a shameless bandwagon jumper, depending on your perspective.

Now, granted, I have always been much more fascinated by Madonna the Icon, rather than Madonna the Recording Artist. There is no denying the fact that she has pop smarts — or at least the pop smarts to work with talented collaborators. But with few exceptions ("Justify My Love" being one of them), her music always seemed to lack a certain edge. Even while she packaged herself as an envelope-pushing deviant, swiping elements from gay dance clubs ("Vogue") and S&M subculture ("Erotica") and bringing them into the mainstream spotlight (and there's much to be said for that), the music itself never truly reflected that subversiveness. When all was said and done, the songs were still syrupy slick concoctions, ready-made for mass commercial consumption. Of course, that was all part of the master plan — but the fact remained that the music never came off nearly as fascinating as the woman behind it.

Starting to bubble

Madonna has had a long history of appropriating styles just starting to bubble aboveground, and *Ray of Light* is no exception. While early pundits made it sound as if Madonna was breaking new ground, single-handedly bringing electronica into the mainstream, the result is far less



Earth Mother Madonna.

trailblazing. Sure, William Orbit has done a stellar job creating a musical bed of electronic blips and sonic textures for Madonna to coo over. But ultimately, these are all still pop songs, replete with traditional verse-chorus structures and greeting card lyrical platitudes — which is not necessarily a bad thing.

Take the title track, for instance. While Orbit winds rave-like oscillating bleeps all around her, Madonna wails, "And I feel like I just got home," her assured

tension. Through it all, Madonna's angelic voice keeps repeating, "Traveling down my own road, watching the signs as they go." Dance music has always been Madonna's strength, and this number showcases that.

But most of this record is pure pop pap, with techno gimmicks thrown into the mix to make it sound fresh. And while it's being hailed as Madonna's most introspective album to date, many of the lyrics have a somewhat hippie-dippy feel to them, what with

While it's being hailed as Madonna's most introspective album to date, many of the lyrics have a somewhat hippie-dippy feel to them, what with all of the pseudo-spiritual allusions to the sun, the sky, and the ocean.

voice hitting notes higher than ever, no doubt the result of her vocal training for *Evita*. It's a pop song, pure and simple, but with techno sounds in place of what would otherwise be drippy keyboard lines. Elsewhere, things are more ambient and subdued, such as the album opener, "Drowned World/Substitute For Love," which builds slowly, as Orbit introduces a cool new sound with each verse. The same is true with "Frozen," the first single, a simple, eerie tune, made all the more interesting by Orbit's meticulous layering of sounds.

The closest *Ray of Light* comes to fulfilling its promise of merging electronica with pop comes halfway into the record, with the hypnotic and groovy "Sky Fits Heaven." A low, rumbling throb propels the number, with drum 'n' bass breakbeats to break up the

all of the pseudo-spiritual allusions to the sun, the sky, and the ocean, not to mention the obligatory references to stars, hearts, and children. Yes, this is Madonna in her Earth Mother role. And while she wears it well on songs like "Nothing Really Matters" and "Little Star," both odes to her daughter Lourdes, the pose comes off as horribly pretentious on "Shanti/Ashtangi," where she chants half the lyrics in Sanskrit.

Overall, though, it's not a bad record. Not at all. But don't take my word for it. Chances are, if you like Madonna, you're going to like this album, no matter what. It's just that with its attendant masturbatory praise, I was ultimately disappointed to find that *Ray of Light* merely turned out to be Yet Another Madonna Album — albeit one with some cool techno tricks up its sleeve. ▼

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MUSIC

On the road again

SF Symphony begins national tour

by Philip Campbell

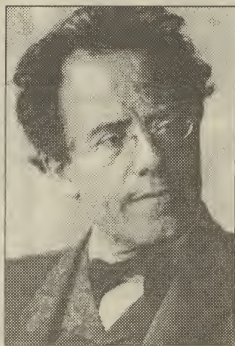
A few short weeks since his return from midwinter hiatus, and San Francisco Symphony Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas is already hitting the road again. This time, he's taking the orchestra with him!

Kicking off the 1998 Charles Schwab National Tour last week, Thomas led a breathtaking performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 6. It will serve as a centerpiece for the traveling repertoire and should bring even more positive notice to a musical partnership that has attracted much national attention.

The week before, MTT turned Davies Hall into a recording studio for concert tapings of Stravinsky's *The Firebird*. The complete ballet score will also feature in the tour, so Carnegie Hall patrons can hardly err, whichever bill of fare they choose. In three seasons, the maestro has forged a rapport with his players that is producing dynamic concerts and terrific recordings, and the gorgeous *Firebird* will certainly be a critical and financial success.

Soloists Jean-Yves Thibaudet and Richard Stoltzman will join the tour orchestra in works they have recently played here, but their estimable contributions can only give additional luster to orchestral programs that have already proved exceptional.

Stoltzman brings his endearingly awkward stage presence and remarkable instrumental mastery to Aaron Copland's dreamy, jazz-tinged Clarinet Concerto. It will serve as a slightly disconcerting, but entertaining start for some of the Mahler evenings, but will also be coupled more appropriately with Copland's own Orchestral



Gustav Mahler in 1907.

Variations, which Tilson Thomas has recorded so successfully with our orchestra.

Frenchman Thibaudet, of the matinee-idol looks and trademark red socks, will essay the starring role in Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 4. With some Copland and *The Firebird* as added enticements, even superstitious music lovers shouldn't fear the Friday the thirteenth concert date.

Dry-eyed Mahler

It is difficult to anticipate what notoriously fickle New Yorkers will make of MTT's dry-eyed and boldly delineated Mahler Sixth, but if their reaction is unprejudiced, they will be rewarded with a moving experience.

The legendary Carnegie Hall acoustics should go a long way in smoothing the shrillness of the flutes and piccolos as they were unflatteringly heard here, in the persistently dry confines of Davies Hall. Their otherwise fine participation was actually the only noticeable problem in a superbly performed event.

It seems Tilson Thomas has little patience with Mahlerian neurosis, for his well-drilled non-nonsense approach allowed for little ambiguity and, for once, the troublesome score sounded remarkably cohesive. Exquisite little details in scoring and tenderly lyrical episodes were observed but not exaggerated, and the results were all the more effective.

Audiences in Chicago at the newly renovated Orchestra Hall will be first to hear what Tilson Thomas has to say about Mahler. They may be hesitant, spoiled by all those years with their own great conductor, the late Sir Georg Solti.

Solti had a justifiably earned reputation as one of the world's great Mahler interpreters and champions, but Tilson Thomas has also made a life-long commitment to these monumental scores, and his interpretations are challenging and deeply considered.

Chicago, Washington DC, Long Island and New York City will make their assessment through the middle of March, but San Francisco has a whole Mahler festival to look forward to this summer.

In the meantime, former SFS Music Director and Conductor Laureate Herbert Blomstedt will be in town for two weeks of concerts featuring Beethoven, Ned Rorem's Piano Concerto, and the Bruckner Symphony No. 5. ▼

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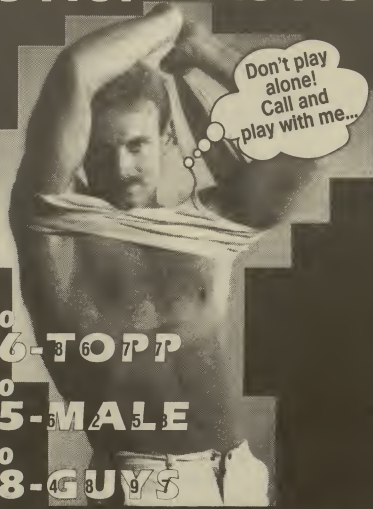
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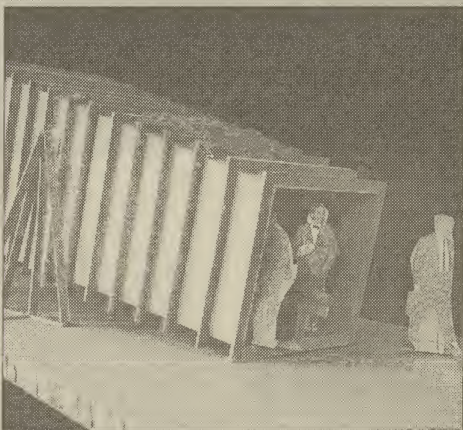


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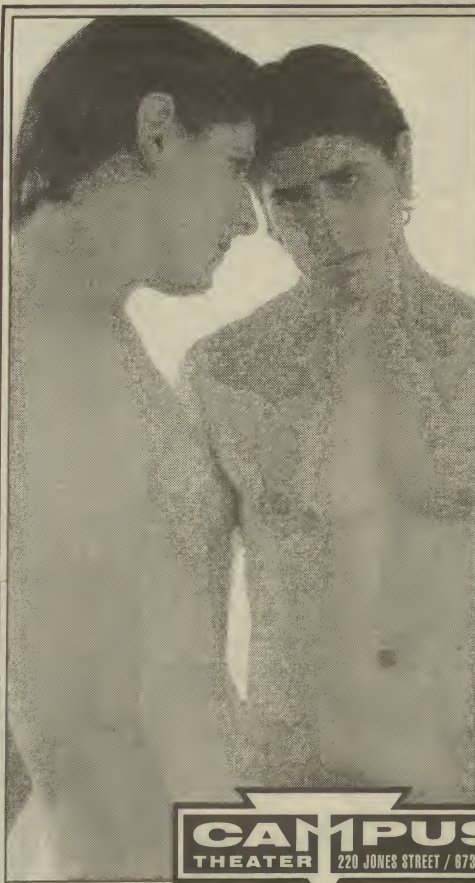
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ART

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Fantasy life

Blue Period releases 'Product'

by John Blanco

Blue Period neatly sums up its ethos on "Rock Star," a song from the local band's recently released debut CD, *Product*. "Jump off the bed and strike a pose," sings Blue Period frontman Adrian Roberts. "Smash another air guitar/Personality amplified/Hey you! You're a rock star!" The song celebrates loud guitars, tight, shiny pants, and studied Pete Townshend moves. But the whole rock star trip is satirized as much as it is celebrated on the track. Toward the end of the number, Roberts says in his best bored and jaded rock star voice, "Yeah. Hello Cleveland. Um, are you ready to rock 'n' roll?" You can almost see his eyes roll.

Blue Period love dressing up and being onstage, but they don't take any of it too seriously. This was obvious at the band's recent CD release party for *Product* at the Paradise Lounge. The show began with a '50s-style pitchman in a suit and fedora taking the stage to enumerate the reasons why the audience should buy *Product*. ("It gets you laid!" he enthused at one point.) Eventually, copies of the CD were tossed into the audience, along with such *Product* tie-ins as Blue Period stickers, T-shirts,

breakfast cereal, game cartridges, and even underwear with the band's logo stamped on the crotch.

In keeping with the CD release party theme, Roberts took the stage in a black mini dress trimmed with rows of compact discs. Cute androgynous Roberts is the undisputed fashion plate of the band, but keyboardist PF, in a yellow feather boa and matching Dutch-boy wig, and turquoise-haired bassist Swirly Rat Jr., in a sparkly polka dot jacket, weren't easily outshone. (Drummer Matt Chaikin and guitarist Christopher Hogan opted for a more low-key look on this particular evening.)

Notes on camp

With all the time and attention the band puts into fashion and Blue Period paraphernalia, you might think their music is just an afterthought. Think again. Like Redd Kross in their mid-'80s prime, Blue Period marries a campy image with an aggressive, non-campy rock 'n' roll sound. Okay, so maybe the music on *Product* — straightforward '90s alt-rock mixed with some amusing '80s New Wave flourishes — is a bit camp. In fact, it was probably the campiness of New Wavey numbers like "Bleed," with its falsetto la-la-la-la chorus, and "Monster," with its big beat and

spooky synth lines, which made them two of the audience favorites at the Paradise Lounge show.

The members of Blue Period were clearly enjoying themselves at this show. If there was a moment during the set that Swirly Rat Jr. wasn't smiling from ear to ear, I didn't see it. But probably no one was having more fun than Roberts. As a performer, Roberts is a winning combination of the rocker and the queen. One minute he's lunging around stage a la Henry Rollins, and the next minute he's gesturing floridly like a cabaret diva.

Toward the end of the night, Roberts carefully scaled Chaikin's drum set in his chunky, four-inch heels and then leapt gracefully to the front of the stage. It was a move he's probably practiced a million times in his bedroom since he was a teen. But then what is Blue Period all about but playing out those kind of teenage rock star fantasies? ▼

Blue Period plays a Fan Appreciation Party this Friday, March 13, 9 pm, at Komotion, 2779 16th at Folsom. \$10 admission gets you all the beer you can drink, plus a free CD or t-shirt. For more info, go to: <http://www.blue-period.com>



Blue Period, clockwise from top left: Christopher Hogan, Swirly Rat Jr., PF, Adrian Roberts, and Matt Chaikin.

SF Ballet

Arts cover

ing off with Benjamin Pierce and Cyril Pierre. Far from being put out by this display of Sapphic sisterhood, the guys too dance with each other, doing air turns while being lifted. Kudelka may sometimes hint at more profundity than he is able to deliver, but this double pas de deux had the audience buzzing, especially since Cisneros and Maffre are both such queenly objects of desire.

Box set

The other premiere on Program IV, similar to *Some Women and Men* in its lack of conventional love relationships and its despairing nihilism, is *Slow*, set to a minimalist organ-and-strings score by Brit

Walzer, one of the first piano ballets and Mr. B's most deliquescent work. Four singers and two pianists (one piano) are crowded stage right, while four couples dance to Brahms' *Love-Songs Waltzes*, Op. 52 and Op. 65. The piece is nearly an hour long and all in 3/4 time, yet it is never boring or monotonous. Balanchine's invention is so fertile that between the two opuses he changes the women from satin ball gowns and high heels to tulle "Sylphide" tutus and pointe shoes, allowing the dance to become more theatrical and idealized.

Pierce tossed Maffre around with abandon. Joanna Berman radiated mature sex appeal in Damian Smith's stalwart arms, and Sherri LeBlanc was all shy anticipation with the handsome Legate. There are still a few glitches in the presentation. The second



Damian Smith

Graham Fitkin. In a dark box with concealed exits upstage that give the dancers the appearance of materializing or disappearing at will, choreographer Val Caniparoli posits a world in which love is either cheap, casual, or tragic. Nobody escapes the malign will that seems to emanate from a slowly eclipsing planet hanging above the stage. Sabina Allemann has one frustrating encounter after another. David Palmer exhausts his sexual energy tearing around the stage. Stephen Legate and Nicole Starbuck couple exhaustively in a pas de deux that mines only 1/1000th of the eroticism of the hot Legate-Lucia Lecarra duet in Balanchine's *Agon* two evenings previously.

Most deliquescent

That all-Balanchine program, Program III, also included the S.F. Ballet premiere of *Liebeslieder*

scene does not dissolve into a starry sky as stipulated by the choreographer, and the audience seated at the far left has to peer through the singers too much of the time.

Yet if you are willing to surrender to its fragrance, *Liebeslieder Walzer* is a heady romantic experience that will be worth repeated viewings. With some adjustments in lighting and casting — I was not happy with the faceless fourth couple, Julia Adam and Roman Rykin — it could become one of the company's most enduring pleasures. ▼

Program III repeats Thursday and Saturday, March 12 and 14; Program IV repeats Friday and Sunday, March 13 and 15. San Francisco Ballet performs at the War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness Avenue. For tickets, call 865-2000.

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BOOKS

Going underground

by Deborah Peifer

Black and Blue by Anna Quindlen; Random House, \$23

When Anna Quindlen gave up her regular opinion column in the *New York Times* some years ago to write fiction, I was one of the many who objected to her decision. There were, after all, plenty of novelists, but only one columnist of the skill and perspicacity of Anna Quindlen.

Her first two novels, *Object Lessons* and *One True Thing*, were very fine, but not worth the loss of her regular newspaper appearances. I ought to have had more faith in someone I admired so much. With *Black and Blue*, Quindlen takes her place as one of the great novelists of this century, in a book so rich, so moving, so brilliantly composed that it serves to change the face of the novel forever.

Quindlen's narrator is Fran Benedetto, whose marriage to Bobby Benedetto is a tale of horror and humiliation combined painfully with infrequent rapture and occasional bliss. Beginning on the morning that she chooses to take their son and flee her husband's brutality, Fran tells the story of her life, of meeting Bobby, being wooed, and learning that his seductive voice was an appalling cover for his always cocked fists.

"The first time my husband hit me I was nineteen years old." With that blunt opening sentence, Quindlen establishes a universe in which memory can be a weapon or a shield. The narrative is not linear, but rather constructed in the way of late-night conversations between old friends, with one thought sparking another, leading to a new understanding or renewed confusion.

Quindlen provides fascinating facts about a national underground for women who know that divorce is not something that they are likely to survive, who realize that only by disappearing is there a chance for life, for themselves and their children. Fran and her son, Robert (and consider the volumes of information supplied by the fact that her husband is Bobby, but their young son, old beyond his years, is Robert), wait at the train station for the first in a series of strangers who will help them to vanish. "No planes, Patty Bancroft told me when we first talked on the phone two weeks before. Plane trips are too easy to trace. The women she helped never flew away; they were not birds but crawling creatures, supplicants, beaten down. Trains, buses, cars. And secrecy."

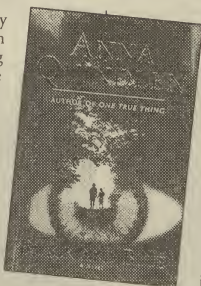
A new life

When she is given her new identity, Fran, now Beth Crenshaw, must look at her own life to discover just who she is when the choices are all up to her. The old Fran "was always watching and waiting, scared of her husband, scared he would turn on her, hit her, finally knock her out for good. Scared to leave her son with no mother to raise him, only a father whose idea of love was bringing you soup after he'd broken your collarbone." How Beth constructs a new life, without the anchors of family and friends, is an important part of this novel.

A life in hiding means a life of secrets, of lying. Fran realizes how much she misses having just "one good girlfriend. ... I remembered how much that friendship had

meant to me, that way you could just open your mouth, sitting on a bench in the park, lying across your twin bed, standing over a sink in the girls' room, pulling the phone into the closet — just open your mouth and let your whole self out."

To suggest, however, that *Black and Blue* is only about domestic violence, to limit it to plot alone, is to do the gravest disservice to the book and its author. Quindlen explores identity as her main character examines why she became a battered woman and how she found the will to redefine herself, to save herself, to risk all in order to regain her own life. Her characters, and rarely has a first-person narration included so many vivid characters, are brimming with complexity, with life. So authentic is Fran Benedetto that halfway



through the book, I found myself wanting to call her to see how things were going, and thinking that I couldn't call her because I didn't know her phone number.

When Thespis stepped out of the Greek chorus 2,500 years ago, he changed drama forever. With its powerfully delineated themes and its

extraordinary style, *Black and Blue* forever changes the face of fiction. This is a stunning novel, one that raises questions about the very notion of self while offering a look at the creation of that self that is painfully personal, potentially political. That Quindlen does all of these profound things with a novel that is as entertaining a read as I can remember is more testimony to her skill. I will always miss Quindlen the columnist, but I would not trade a century of her columns for *Black and Blue*. ▼

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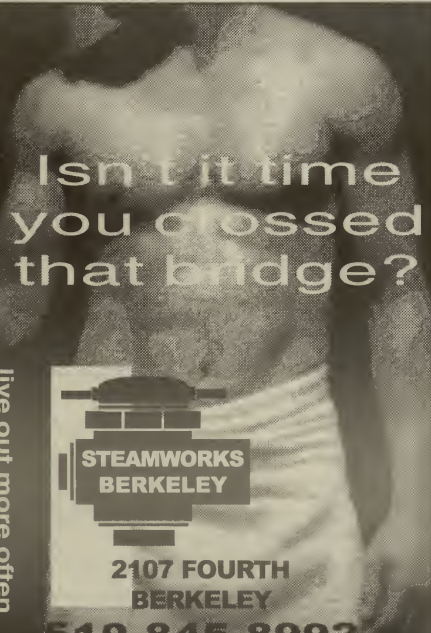
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Wide world of leather

by Mister Marcus

The Mr. SF Leather '98 Committee announced the judges for this year's competition last week: Barry Rogers, Beth Downey, Ms. GG Leather Erin Kelley, Inter-Club Fund President Tommy Thomas, former Mr. Louisiana Leather Mitch Pierce, and David Carranza, proprietor of Leather Masters in San Jose. The head judge is Mr. SF Leather 1979 David Kloss, who went to Chicago that first year and brought home the International Mr. Leather title.

The very, very amusing Mimi Freed and our home-town funnyman T.J. Istvan will keep you in stitches, and the tallymasters for the March 20 extravaganza at Club Townsend are Tim Wong and George Carreras. The \$20 tickets are available now at the main Mister S Leather store and at Auto Erotica, 4077A 18th St. (upstairs). Otherwise, it'll cost you \$25 at the door! And while we're at it, the head judge at Intl. Mr. Leather '98, Thom Dombkowski, will be at the contest, as well as two other IML judges, including one from Amsterdam!

Press passes, only one per publication, will be distributed at Daddy's on Saturday night, March 14. This is, after all, a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund and LYRIC. Make your plans now! And by the way, the deadline for contestant applications is tomorrow, Friday, March 13. You can get one by calling 863-2758. Remember pre-judging is Sunday, March 15, 1300, at Leticia's.

As the leather community looks ahead to one of many spectaculars this year — the 20th anniversary of Intl. Mr. Leather in Chicago — contests are in progress all over the place. From what I'm told, it looks like there may be almost 70 IML contestants! As a voting judge this year, I have been



Cal Eagles MC 1998 officers (l to r): Bill Hollabaugh, treasurer; Ed Kleppinger, recording secretary; Peter Haase, president; Morris Lyons, road captain; Alden Spafford, corresponding secretary; and Ken Kalsteinn, vice president.

advised by Thom Dombkowski to expect to spend 14 full hours in the pre-judging interview sessions!

Next weekend, four more sashes will be added to the roster. Besides the Mr. SF '98 soiree, in Albuquerque, on March 21, Mr. and Ms. New Mexico Leather will be chosen, and in Dallas, the Mr. Leather of All Texas will be selected at the Dallas Eagle. Eagle co-owner Mark Frazier flashes that they have contestants from San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth, Amarillo and Waco. Mr. Washington State Leather will be chosen in Seattle on March 28.

Local bar contests have also become quite prestigious, such as the Mr. Cell Block Leather affair in Chicago two weeks ago. This past weekend, the Dixie Belle Saloon in Kansas City staged its Mr. Dixie Belle Leather contest, and Bruce Towse passed the sash to James Young of Kansas City, Kan. The 6'1" banker has amassed a total of \$30,000 in fundraising. The first runner-up was Terry Brown from the same town, and the second runner-up was Tim Reardon of K.C., Mo. I'll have photos for you very soon! All the

big kahunas of leatherdom were there.

Brotherly love

While a lot of people are gearing up for Chicago in May, let us not forget the newest kids on the block: the American LeatherMan, LeatherWoman and LeatherBoy contests in Washington, D.C., just one month before IML. It's the American Brotherhood Weekend, April 23-26.

Since these titles were wrested away from that irascible character in Boston, the producers, Jim Cobb, Roger Able and Vern Stewart, have made this particular title contest a "must," and grass-roots level contests culminating with the ABW have been taking place for months. Last year's winners — Jim Raymond, Ms. Leslie Anderson and Max Steiner (the first female leather boy) — have been active in their respective communities and very visible. They will pass their sashes that April weekend when the weather in the nation's capital is divine — cherry blossoms and all!

There are two price options for this event: the VIP deluxe package (\$100) and the regular registration package (\$70). Both are available from ABLE Productions, P.O. Box 130, Utica, NY 13505-5130.

page 49 ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 12

Mr. Edge Leather '98 contest, with cash prize and a leather vest by Image Leather's David Speer. Winner competes at Mr. SFL '98 on March 20.

Mr. June 1999 on the BCC gets chosen at the Powerhouse at 2200, with a \$100 cash prize, fame, immortality, etc.

AIDS Emergency Fund's town hall meeting at Charpe's Restaurant (131 Gough) at 1900. Join in and get your point across!

Friday, March 13

Jesus Martinez passes the sash to the second Mr. Polk Street Leather, with a \$250 cash prize and vest by David Speer. The victor competes at Mr. SFL '98.

Big Boot Night at the Loading Dock, 2100 until closing, with \$1.50 well drinks and beer, plus free boot conditioner courtesy of the Bent Bar Ranch.

Weekend, March 13-15

If you're in Fort Lauderdale, it's Hurricane '98 with Mr./Ms. Hurricane Leather, featuring a meet and greet, contest and victory brunch.

Saturday, March 14

Cal Eagles' one-day ride begins at Daddy's at 0930, then at 1000 leaves for Alice's on Skyline Boulevard above Woodside.

Meet and greet contestants, judges and leather VIPs at Daddy's tonight, with a beer bust at 2000. Lots of "star fucker" material will be on hand.

Sunday, March 15

GDI's Spring Equinox beer/soda bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, with St. Patrick's food. Wear green;

be seen; don't be a queen!

Beauty's Revenge, a mini-closet ball with some of SF's highest-ranking leather men doing drag for the first time. At the Turf Club in Hayward. At 1500 until they scrape off all the mascara!

Mr. SF Leather pre-judging upstairs at Leticia's at 1300. Not open to the public.

Wednesday, March 18

Wear your green undies at Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2030 to 2300. Call 863-Head and ask for St. Pat!

Thursday, March 19

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at Daddy's, 2000-2400, \$7.

Friday, March 20

The 20th Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest, Club Townsend, \$20 advance/\$25 door. VIPs, Mimi Freed, T.J. Istvan, the contestants!

Exiles SF's caning workshop by Lady Hilary, 1930, Women's Bldg., \$3 members/\$5 others. Call 487-5170 for info.

Saturday, March 21

Emperor Fred hosts Imperial Leather Brunch for the new Mr. SF Leather at Lupann's, \$20, with seatings at 1100, 1200 and 1300.

Mr. Texas Leather Contest in Dallas and Mr./Ms. New Mexico Leather in Albuquerque — if you're in the vicinity.

Waterboys' beer/soda bust, 1900-2200, at the Powerhouse with \$2 bottled beer and Real Video's wet films. Big wet party afterward to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and LYRIC.

POLKSTRASSE

Tales from the Orient

by Sweet Lips

The irrepressible and effervescent Dave Ryan is back at Reflections (1160 Polk) after his whirlwind trip to Thailand. Do drop by for one of his old-fashioned Bloody Marys and some juicy tails — er, tales — of his unprintable exploits in the Land of Smiles. Don't forget to ask to see the pictures! If that Instamatic could talk! Mr. Ryan opens the bar Fridays through Tuesdays, 6 a.m.-noon.

Sea change: My shift at ye olde PR is now Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. I'll finally get weekends off to play and terrorize certain other drinking *boites*. The Polkstrasse isn't big enough to contain me, folks! Come visit the Empress of Alcatraz and the Czarina de Turk Street for a before-work beverage!

Congrats and a bottle of the finest bubbly to the dynamic David Kapp and James, who celebrate their 11th anniversary on Friday, March 13, at the PR. James will be tending bar from 2 to 8 p.m., plus it's our Friday the 13th, Part Two night. And have you taken a gander at our new Flamingo Room?

Before I forget it, be sure to get your Academy Award ballots for only \$1 at the PR. Our annual Oscar extravaganza is on Monday, March 23, starting at 5 p.m. Don't miss the prizes and party favors. I'll be crossing my fingers for my dear old friend from my Carnaby Street days, Miss Julie Christie, in the Best Actress category. (Can they really be giving the Oscar to

that mousy Helen Hunt? That's a star?! Hah!)

I'm happy to report that Dale Fisher is on the mend after being struck in a hit-and-run accident. While I've fallen out of a few moving vehicles, I've never actually been hit by one, though I have awakened under a few. Anyway, miss you, doll, and hurry back!

The Polkstrasse is agog over the remodeling job on the old Gate at Pine and Jones. When the new establishment opens its doors, there will be two floors for gourmet dining and a small bar

with seven stools. The plans look fantastic! Watch for the grand opening!

Another must-guzzle event is the Lone Star Saloon's beer bust on Sunday, March 15 (beware the Ides of March!), 4-8 p.m., \$6. Any fair with the redoubtable Kristy Cruise is always a blast!

All you jazz aficionados out there should catch the great jazz group at the Swallow (1750 Polk) on Sunday afternoons. Their jam sessions really rock! While we're on the subject of *le jazz hot*, be aware that the immortal Etta ("At Last") James, the queen of R&B, will be gracing San Francisco with a March 28 performance at the Masonic Auditorium as part of the SF Jazz Festival. Tickets are available at all Wherehouse and Tower Records outlets.

The scoop from Alabama is that Dolly Dale and Dick Cook are doing fabulously, though they miss their old friends and haunts.

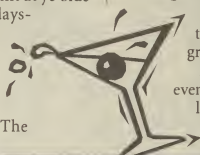
A brief reminder! The first workday at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in a long time is happening Saturday, March 21,



Man of mystery: Who's the new bartender at the P.R. and P.S.? Find out Friday, March 20.

beginning at 9 a.m. The NAMG is located in the eastern end of the park, north of the bowling greens and west of the tennis courts. Tours of the grove are conducted every Thursday, 9-11 a.m. Please call the NAMG office at (415) 750-8340 for more information. The meadow has been a bit of a lake lately, but hopefully we can work around that. Wear your rubbers!

Those of my East Bay readers into sex — and you know who you are — will be happy to hear that sex diva Carol Queen and Robin Morgan will be heading a "How to Throw a Safe-Sex Party" workshop on Monday, March 23, 8-10 p.m., \$20, 2504 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, (510) 841-8987. Ms. Queen and Mr. Morgan will give you the real nitty-gritty on lube, latex, creating the right atmosphere, asking permission, etc. I'm there already! ▼



Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

Or you can e-mail to: AbleProd@aol.com. The contest will be held at the Improv in Washington, D.C. The host hotel is the Washington Plaza; you can reserve by calling (800) 424-1140 and specifying Group #6068.

Naughty but nice

Nice crowd last Thursday, March 5, for the Mr. May 1999 Bare Chest Calendar Contest. There were six contestants, and judges Patrick Batt, David Meyer and Mike Wieland had a ball with them all. You'd have thought it was a full moon night! When all the guffawing and raunch subsided, the score sheets pegged Berkeley's Gregg Schamberger Mr. May 1999. Photos next week! Mr. June will be chosen this Thursday, March 12, at 2200!

Well, kids, we have a new Internet talk show for the GLBT leather community. *Off Center* airs every Tuesday at 1900 PST and is broadcast worldwide on the Web. The distinguished writer and author Race Bannon is the host, and *Off Center* is produced by GLOradio, a group committed to fair, accurate and positive portrayals of the GLBT community. Info on how you can listen to the show can be obtained by clicking on <http://www.bannon.com/off-center>. Lots of interesting topics: "Is Kinky Sex Sick?" "The Life of a Titleholder" "Old Guard vs. New Guard" "Bondage — What's Its Appeal?" etc. Questions? Click on Race@bannon.com.



The Bare Chest Contests at the Powerhouse are drawing record crowds and contestants. Mr. June will be chosen this Thurs., March 12, at 2200.

Frank Strona's Scarlet Letter Services is offering a whole series of workshops for the physical fetishist, including "Flogging," "C&B Torture," "Joys of Caning," "Whip Lab" and much more. For information on these workshops, call 621-4145 or click on Scarlet@aol.com. Isn't it nice we have all these up-to-date services?

Hey, SMMILE, the group that brings you the Dore Alley Fair (July 26) and the Folsom Street Fair (Sept. 27), just had its elections. Paul Lester was re-elected president; Marcus Wonacott, vice president; Greg Byfield, treasurer; and LDB XV David Meyer, secretary.

Likewise, the Constantines MC re-elected Doug Stromberg their prez; Wayne Johnson, vice president; Al Aden, recording/corresponding secretary (again); John Lopez, treasurer; and Kit Carson,

road captain. Congrats to all!

Last Sunday, the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California (GLHS) unveiled its newest exhibit, "Queer and Kinky Danger: Artists Relating to Leather/SM/Kink," at their spiffy offices (973 Market St., fourth floor). If you were into leather in the 1940s and beyond, you'll really be surprised at all the leather events, clubs, bars and great art that was out and about in those days! A huge leather/SM crowd showed up for the opening, and the old guard and new guard mingled amiably. If I heard it once, I heard it a dozen times: "Wow, this exhibit makes me feel old!" A great effort thanks to Gayle Rubin, Greg Pennington and Willie Walker. You can see it Saturdays and Sundays, 1200-1700, through May 31. Hey, they need volunteers and donations! Pony up! ▼

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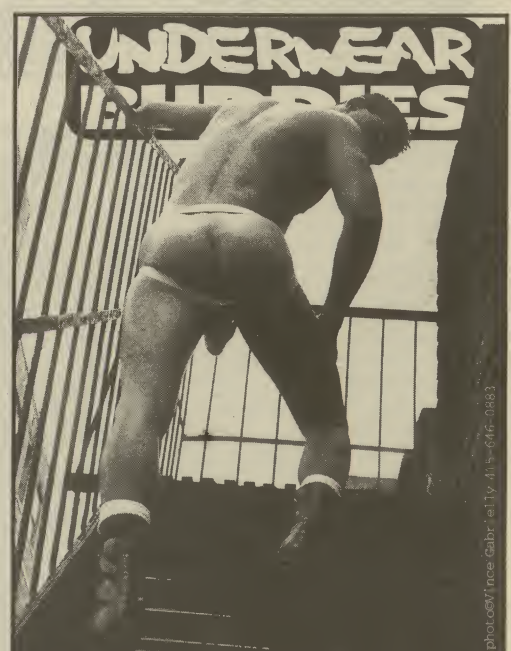
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Eric M. Rose

Tervuren treasures

If you had the misfortune of being among the throngs of people who braved the rain and long lines at the Legion of Honor museum this past weekend to catch the end of the *Harlem Renaissance* exhibit, then hopefully you were able to squeeze through the crowds and into the quieter downstairs gallery where the new exhibit *Treasures of African Art from the Tervuren Museum* is showing.

For the armchair traveler in us all, the Tervuren collection offers a seven dollar round-trip ticket to the heart of the dark continent. With 125 treasures, comprised of ceremonial masks, wood statues, weapons, coffins, pipes, musical instruments, and ceremonial cups and staffs, this exhibit offers a fascinating glimpse of the cultures that flourished in the area that is now the Republic of Congo.

The Tervuren Museum in Belgium is world-renowned for the meticulousness with which they catalogue their artifacts, having specialists who determine everything from the tribe and date to the exact types of wood used in each piece. This is apparent in the exhibit, with most pieces in the collection accompanied by a placard of useful information, so that everyone can leave knowing their *nkisi* from their *nkondo*. There is also an introductory room which shows videos and photos of the Congo, gives information on the indigenous cultures, and even has several pieces available as "touch art."

The works in this traveling collection were selected for aesthetic value, rarity, age (most date from 1890 to 1940), exceptional dimensions, and materials. The size of the exhibit makes it possible to compare the regional differences as well as stylistic variations in the many pieces. The awesome beauty of the work, combined with the wealth of ethnographic information, gives the collection a perfect balance between art show and anthropological exhibition.

The wood-carved statues are the most noteworthy part of the exhibition. Called *nkisi*, they were believed to be animated by spirits that could hunt down wrong-doers, as well as protect the village and chieftains from evil spirits. It is not hard to imagine how horrifying these figures would be in their natural environment, which is perhaps what gives the collection a slight touch of melancholy. Looking at the collection through plate glass in a museum, one cannot help but be reminded that the colonial powers which so painstakingly archived these Central African cultures were at the same time dismantling them. ▼

Treasures of African Art from the Tervuren Museum is showing at the Legion of Honor museum, located in Lincoln Park at Clement and 34th Avenue, through April 19. Call 863-3330 for more information.



Bill Shannon & AXIS Dance Company in *Keeping Critical*. See Tuesday.

Fri

Antigone

The Holy Theatre presents a tribal version of this classic. \$13.50-\$15. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/21. Call for times; tonight at 7:30pm. Yugen/Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7797

Atalanta

Samuel Topiary's multi-disciplinary dance-play: story of a dyke/princess/tomboy. \$5-\$10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Butch:

From Little Boys to Daddies: butch identity explored through performances. 8pm thru Sat. \$10-\$15. Luna Sea Women's Project, 2940 16th St., Rm. 216C. 863-2989.

Combat!

"An American Melodrama," John Fisher's play on gay men and women in the US military during WWII. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, also 3pm Sat.; thru 4/18. \$21-24. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 621-7797.

Contemporary Crafts Market

Over 350 crafts artists displaying, selling, and discussing their work. Fri. 10am-8pm, Sat.-Sun. 10am-6pm. \$5. Herbst & Festival Pavilions, Ft. Mason Center. 995-4925.

Digitally Yours:

Upgrade '98. Karen Hirst and Margery Kreitman's comedy: lesbians on the web. Fri.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 2pm thru 3/28.

Douglas Coupland

Vancouver novelist reads from *Girlfriend in a Coma*. 7pm. Free. Booksmith, 1644 Haight. 863-8688.

Duty Free

Solo work by David Mills, with video by Please Louise Productions: examining SF's homo-fascist-cult-of-the-body-boy-circuit-queen-gay-culture. \$10. 8pm thru Sun. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 626-2787.

Fire Eater

Bridge Mullins' drama: explores colonialism, altruism and lesbianism through the Irish Potato Famine. \$8. Thurs.-Sat. 8pm, Sun. 2pm thru 3/20. Lisser Hall, Mills College Theatre, Oakland. (510) 430-3308.

June Bride

(Just a Traditional Jewish Lesbian Wedding), Sara Felder's play, directed by Jayne Wenger. Fri.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm & 7pm. \$18. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Near Future

Futuristic dance party kick

off to Alan Rath's *New Robotic Sculpture* exhibit. \$10. 8pm-1:30am. Yerba Buena Center Grand Lobby, 701 Mission. 978-2700.

New Year, New Space

Group art show, incl. Annette Byrd, Ken Kirsch, Linda Trunzo, more. Thru 3/18. Bucheon Gallery, 540 Hayes. 863-2891.

Once Vaudeville

And adult comedy featuring Kevin Augustine and life-size puppets. \$15. Fri.-Sat. 8pm; thru 4/4. City Cabaret, 450 Geary. 931-9707.

Small Press Traffic

Presents: George Albon and Johanna Drucker reading from their work. \$5. 7:30pm. New College Theatre, 777 Valencia. 437-3454.

Spice It Up

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF performs with special guest Jill Togawa. \$10-\$25. 8pm. Cowell Theater, Ft. Mason Center. 861-7067.

The Widow's Blind Date

Israel Horowitz' dramatic play. \$16-\$18. 8pm Thurs.-Sat., 7pm Sun.; thru 4/18. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Unthinkable Tenderness:

The Art of Human Rights, presented by the SFSU Art Dept. Gallery and Amnesty Int'l. Mon.-Sat. thru 3/21. 12pm-4pm. SFSU A&I Bldg., Room 238. 338-6535.

Vernal Season

Erotic photography by Van Velsor, Linda Rose, Tim Taylor, more. Fri.-Sat. 2-8pm, Sun. 12-5pm; thru 4/5. Raven Gallery, 2187 Market. 551-7940.

Women on the Edge

SF Performance festival showcasing women choreographers, incl. Chris Black, Jo Kreiter, Cynthia Adams, more. 8pm. \$10-\$15. Brady Street Dance Center, 60 Brady St. (510) 465-3144.

Words of Perspiration

Stand-up comics Karen Ripley and Scott Capurro. \$10-\$12. Tonight at 8pm and 10pm, Sat. at 8pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sat

Anarchist book fair

Speakers include Pat Califia, Carol Queen, Arthur Evans, more. 10am-6pm. SF County Fair Bldg., Lincoln Way and 9th Ave. 431-8355.

The Best of the Best

SF Gay Men's Chorus: encore presentation of *Naked Man and Extrabaganza*. 8pm tonight; 2pm Sun. Masonic Auditorium, Nob Hill. 392-4400.

CrimeZyland

Stephen Wilson's interactive art exhibit corresponding to minute-by-minute SF crime stats. Free. Open 24hrs. City Site, 155 Grove. 554-6080.

Designs for Dance

Exhibit of costume designs and set models. Wed.-Sat. thru 5/9. Free. SF Perf. Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Fauxgirls

New drag revue from the producers of "En Drag." \$8. 9:30pm & 11pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Fiesta de Primavera

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano holds spring potluck party. Call 863-7087 for location, info.

Full Gallop

Elizabeth Ashley's one-woman show based on memoirs of former Vogue editor, Diana Vreeland. Thru 4/9; call for times. Today at 2pm & 8pm. \$20-\$55. Stage Door

Theatre, 420 Mason. 776-1999

Futura

SF's ultimate Latino dance club: Michael Stuart and Corrine sing from their hit CDs. \$12. Door open at 10pm. 174 King St. 665-6715.

Queer & Kinky Danger:

"Art of San Francisco's Leather/SM/Kink Worlds." Free. Sat.-Sun. 2pm-5pm; thru 5/31. Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, 973 Market, Suite 400. 777-5455.

Saturday Night

Gay Comedy

Gay comics Lisa Geduldig, Amma, Tom Ammiano. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Tantric SM

QSM presents a unique class for women and men exploring Tantric yoga in S&M. \$10-\$20. 1:30pm-4pm. Call for location, info: 550-7776.

Sun

Brides of March

Klubstitute presents: Toga party, pagan drag show. \$2.98. Doors open at 9:30. Chameleon, 853 Valencia. 331-1500 xDIET.

Chant:

Medieval and Modern. Chanticleer, Bay Area male vocal ensemble, performs. \$19-\$29. 7pm. Mission Dolores Basilica, 3321 16th St. 392-4400.

Joe Novak

"Color & Light: Recent Paintings," exhibit thru 3/27. McKesson Plaza, 1 Post St. 333-6530.

Live Jazz

Free admission. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Nicole Shapiro

NY Times Bestselling Author: "strategize and negotiate for gay and lesbian love." \$35-\$45. 3pm-6pm. Ritz-Carlton, 600 Stockton. 989-7162.

Rinna Wolfe

Reads from *Edmondia Lewis: Wildfire in Marble*. Free. 3:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Vance Chatel

An exhibit of over 20 paintings, drawings, and prints. 9am-6pm thru 3/31. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 267-6990.

Mon

Five Photographers

Jernigan Wicker Fine Arts presents work by Lucy Gray, Gunnar Plake, Sarah Sterling, more. The Flagmaker Bldg., 161 Natoma, 2nd Floor. 512-0335.

Gay Comedy Open Mic

MC Suzy Berger, up-and-coming comic talent, performers sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

June Jordan

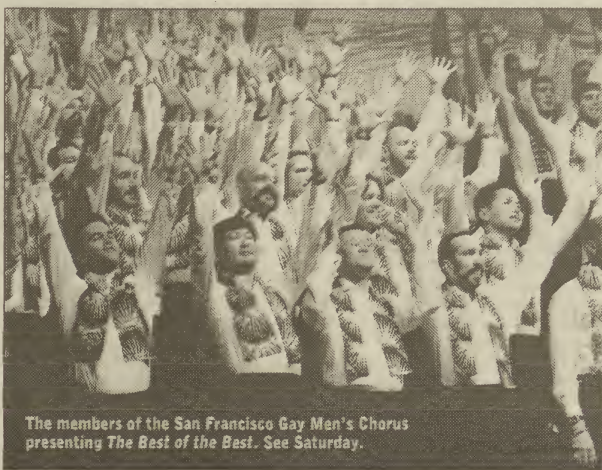
Reads from *Kissing God Goodbye*. 7:30pm. Free. Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 486-0698.

Kurt Glawienke

Just Beyond the Horizon, an exhibit of recent artwork. Weekdays thru 5/29. UCSF Faculty/Alumni House, 745 Parnassus. 476-4723.

Sargent Johnson:

African-American Modernist. Over 60 works by prominent Bay Area artist. Thru 7/7. SFOOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.



The members of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus presenting *The Best of the Best*. See Saturday.

The cast of *The Hanged Woman*. See Thursday.

Tues

2.5 Minute Ride

Solo performer Lisa Kron's monologue show. \$16. Wed.-Fri. thru 3/21. Call for times, tonight at 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. G, Ft. Mason Center. 646-0884.

Bouquets to Art

The work of nearly 100 floral designers compliments the artwork in the museum. \$7 gen'l admission. Legion of Honor Mus'm, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

The Elders Speak

Group mixed media exhibit by prominent Native American artists. Free. Tues.-Fri. 10am-5:30pm, Sat.-Sun. 12pm-5pm. AICA, 23 Grant Ave, 6th Floor. 989-7003.

Groove

St. Patty's Day vodka party: vodka drinks with paid admission. Visuals by Please Louise; DJ John Bush. Residents Blackstone & Ellen Ferraro. \$5. 9-10:30pm, dancing til 4:30am. 1015 Folsom.

Gross Indecency:

"The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde," Moisés Kaufman's play. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 4/12. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. \$25-39. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Keeping Critical

AXIS Dance Company and Bill Shannon dance performance: On art, disability, collaboration, and criticism. \$5-\$10. 7pm. Yerba Buena Center, Forum, 701 Mission. 626-2787.

Landscape

Group exhibit, featuring 13 artists, incl. Martha Armstrong, Gary Denmark, Brad Durham, more. Thru 3/31. Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Spring Visual Arts Season

Opens at Yerba Buena Center: installation art by Heidi Kumao; *The Last Judgment*, featuring Russian Socialist Realist School; *Needles and Pins* exhibit by five local artists; *I Hate Your Guts* film series examining relations between Americans and Russians. \$5. Tues.-Sun. 11am-6pm. Yerba Buena Center, 701 Mission. 978-2700.

Steve McQueen

"Four Projected Images" video installation thru 5/12. \$8. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Wed

Botanical Studies & Assemblages

Exhibit of botanical watercolors by Wayne Hand and assemblages by Hugh Hunter; thru 4/5. Paxton Gate, 1204 Stevenson St. 255-5955

Learning Normalcy

Exhibit of work by Kimberly Austin, also new work by Paul Pratchenko. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/28. Call for hours. Braunstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter. 392-5532.

My Castle's Rockin'

Rhodesa Jones stars as Jazz legend Alberta Hunter in Larry Parr's one-woman show. \$12-\$22. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/18. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

My Night With Reg

Kevin Elyot's comedy: haunting tales of gay love and desire. \$10-\$20. Wed.-Sat. thru 5/16. Call for times; tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

One-Act Festival

My Place in the Cosmo and *Jesus Christ is Alive and Well and Living in Sweden*, written & performed by MFA stu-

dents at SFSU. \$9. 8pm. Thur.-Sat., 2pm Sun.; thru 3/29. Studio Theater, Creative Arts Bldg., SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-2467.

Orlando Outland

Reads from *Principles*. Free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Secret San Francisco

And Harlem of the West: The Fillmore Jazz Archives. Concurrent exhibits examine 50 years of SF nightlife. Free. 12pm-5:30pm, Wed.-Sat.; thru 4/18. SF Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness.

So, I Killed a Few People

Presented by The Annoyance Theatre and Pipedream Productions. Wed.-Sat. thru 3/25. 8:45pm. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Talking With

Footloose presents 11 female monologues written by Jane Martin. \$8-\$12. 8pm Wed.-Sat., thru 3/28. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

Treasures of African Art

From the Tevuren Museum. 125 treasures from Central Africa. \$7. Tues.-Sun. 9:30am-5pm; thru 4/19. Legion of Honor Mus'm, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Thur

Book Browsing

Shanti's Book Browsing and Give Away Day. 1pm-4pm. Shanti offices, 1546 Market. 487-4743.

Darren Waterston

New Works: Paintings & Works on Paper. Tues.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm; thru 4/18. Haines Gallery, 49 Geary, 5th Floor. 397-8114.

Elana Dykewomon

Discusses small press publishing with Lucy Bledsoe. Free. 4:30pm. Poetry Center, SFSU, Humanities Bldg., Room 512.

The Enduring Spirit

Exhibit by renowned photographer Phil Borges, part of Amnesty Int'l Human Rights Arts Festival; thru 4/30. Studio Gallery, 654 Mission. 243-8670.

The Hanged Woman

New play by lesbian playwright Lee Kizsonas. \$12. 8pm Thurs.-Sat.; thru 4/11. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy. 648-4121.

Heroic, Beloved

The Lively Foundation presents music and dance benefit; choreographer Leslie Friedman. \$25. 8pm thru Friday; 3pm Sun. Veterans Bldg. Green Room, 401 Van Ness. 346-8959.

Hopes and Aspirations

Decorative Painting of Korea, exhibit thru 5/10. \$7. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Varla Jean Merman

Stars in *The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman*. \$12-\$14; thru Sun. Call for times, tonight at 8pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

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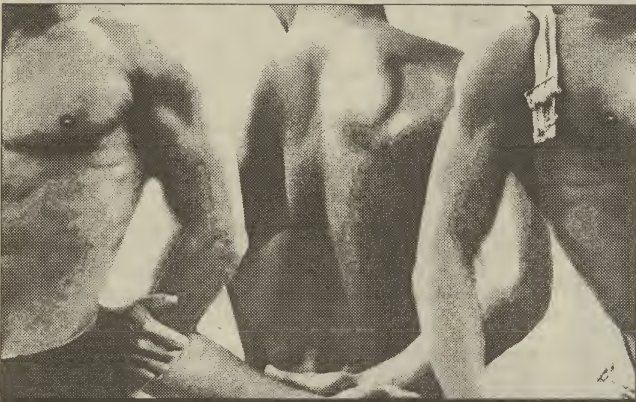
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PARTING GLANCES

Sophisticated Man Martini's
We both were with friends at the bar. You broad shouldered, handsome, professional appearance. Me, green eyes, wily hair, full lips. I came back, missed you. We should chat, no? ☎ 1200

Cory 213 AM Kearny @ Sacto
You: Looking for time and #15 bus. Me: Eric, tried to help. Should have given you my number. Second chance? ☎ 1201

Smith-Kline Labs 2/9/98
Met you in 490 Post elevator after your blood test. We talked going into Union Square Garage. Were you cruising me? Are you single? Should we meet for coffee? ☎ 1202

Robert Thorley From Merced
Saw you on the inbound J Church at approximately 7pm one night. Please get in touch. John from Fresno. ☎ 1203

L Muni Mtngmry. Thu. 2/5 5:45
You: Tall, black hair, leather jacket, court shoes. Me: 5'11", brown hair, goatee, gold jacket. Too shy to say hi. Goatee? ☎ 1204

Safeway @ 16th & Potrero 2/1
Sunday @ 5pm; check out line. You: Tie-dye T-shirt, glasses, cute. Me: Shy Latin guy behind you. Pts. call if interested. ☎ 1205

Glen Park Bart
You: Maroon bomber. Me: With friend. You were getting cash, or followed into Bart. Lets meet. ☎ 1206

ISO: Kitty Glamour
Please call again. You have sparked my heart with love... And lust. Im willing to settle down and let you make a married man out of me. ☎ 1207

Met @ Yukon Mining
You-in LA in Jan. You were with a friend. You approached me. I thought I was attractive. I ate alone. I-sought you might be with a boyfriend & I didn't think to give my number. I hope you get it now. I think you are very handsome, but didn't say so then! Will be visiting SF soon, call Ross. ☎ 1208

Gay Pride, San Diego Dance Boat
You were Bill from SF, with red hair and black t-shirt. My friends and I were from Arizona. We had a nice chat but then lost contact. Lets talk again. ☎ 1209

Alan At Mack Sat 2/21
We shared some fantastic kissing, among other things. Get in touch so we can continue to explore each others bodies. Richard. ☎ 1409

BlowBuddys and you used T-shirt
28, 11pm. I said you were handsome, you said I was too, and I said -nah- later I asked for your name. Can't stop thinking about you Dane! Dinner?? ☎ 1301

Powell St. Station 30dec 97
You- extra handsome Eurasian, what's, piercings, boots- East end of town, we talked. Me: GWM in black; great body, great boots, lick them 4 u ☎ 1302

D. Rigin, Airline Stew
Was that you driving around SOMA? Are you back in SF? Get in touch. U can do it. ☎ 1303

Castro Station ISO: Kitty G.
I saw you again on 2-7-98. I was with my current boyfriend, couldn't say hello. But it's you I desire. You have my number. Pts. call. 1304

Teus. 2-23, 7:25am Pts Bay
Point Bart you cute Caucasian-Me African American I got off at Montgomery-to shy to talk. Call me. ☎ 1405

In-Bound K At 04:45 11 Feb
U: Handsome, Sp. Puerto Rican guy in black corduroy shirt. Me: African guy in leather jacket. We both off at mont. St. Lunch, and then a nap? ☎ 1305

Presidents Day In Castro
4pm. Across Midnight Sign. We passed each other, smiled, looked, stopped, waited. Me: GAM, Blk. jacket, with 2 friends. You: GWM, walked back and waited. I should have said Hi. ☎ 1400

35 Eureka Presidents Day 3PM
Me: tall, goatee, gray/brown hair, you tall, balding glasses. Our eyes met we smiled, you got off at 20th&Eureka, would like to get together with you. Call ☎ 1401

Chris @ Eagle/Hole on Sun. 2-15
You: Incredible green eyes, cowboy hat, leather pants, tattoos. Had fun with you and your friends. I would like to see you and your great smile again... Call me, Robert. ☎ 1402

Gaylie "Manhunt" Heartbreaker
Me: b/blu. You: first truly beautiful man to smile at me in a year! Couldn't stop smiling back then noticed you were already with someone! Was I wrong? ☎ 1404

A Sparkling Moment In Time
When the new inbound L train left Powell station. You waved as the train left. I should have stayed onboard. 2/19 Call me. Joseph. ☎ 1406

Sun 2/22 @ Wild Card On 17h
You: Black leather jacket, white t, sp hair, blue & baseball cap wolder friend. Me: black leather jacket, turtleneck, s/p goatee w/2 friends-exchanged winks-let's talk! ☎ 1407

N If The 3 Orgasms
Steamworks Fri. Feb 20. I hope you'll forgive me for not coming out to talk with you. Will you give me another chance? ☎ 1408

2/21 Fri 11:00 p At Buddies
You: Tall, white, thick mustache, buff, with CHP, chest hair. Me: sorter, Asian, smooth, buff. We had a great time. Love the way we kissed and played. Meet again? ☎ 1410

IBR Valentine Stud Puppy
Grrrrr! Hot bottom with new nipples from San Diego! want more! Me: local boy in warm red boots - call me! ☎ 1412

D. Rigin, Airline Stew.
Was that you driving in SOMA last month? Are you back? Get in touch. U can do it! ☎ 1413

My Place 2/15 'P' W/HARNESS
You sucked my dick, I played with your sexy smooth, firm, ass. I had a great time. I want to stick more than a finger in you. "L" w/ Arena T-shirt. ☎ 1414

N Judah Inbound-Wed 2/25 9am
Handsome Asian (Chinese?) in black jacket. You were seated by the window, fixing a mechanical pencil. Can't forget your smile; really like to see you again. ☎ 1500

Mon. 2/9, James w/Basset hound
Bretal Heights Park, walking our dogs. You're Asian w/glasses; I'm Caucasian, windbreaker, 2 dogs-let my car lights on. Great talking with you-maybe coffee sometime? ☎ 1300

Michael At Unilab Feb 27
We both woofed, but you couldn't talk. You said my voice was familiar give me a call. Kevin. ☎ 1501

Sunday 03/01 Blue Miata
Safeway Market L. 4:30 pm, we were both in express lines, smiled at each other. You turned left on Church St. Would like to meet you. ☎ 1505

Tower-S. Mc Lachlan-2/26
You asked me where I found the "Satisfying" album as I was about to check out. Coffee? Joe. ☎ 1502

Golden Child 2/28
You GWM, black leather jacket & tie. Me: GAM all in black our eyes met twice. You said hi, me too shy. Shall we connect soon? ☎ 1503

David J-Church Late Fri 27 Feb
You tall long brown/blond hair, me brownish hair blue eyes sat across from you. Long hard night. You got off mid-20s streets. Call when you don't want to be alone. ☎ 1504

Cafe Flore Sunday, March 3rd
You were sitting by the entrance w/brown hair, green shirt, black coat and beautiful eyes. Me shaved head, goatee, retro glasses, couldn't stop staring at you. Please call. ☎ 1506

Windmills-Golden Gate Park
Wed. Feb 18, 8pm. You: leather jacket, backpack, pierced right nipple, goatee, clipped chest hair, waiting for Latino buddy. Let's finish what we started ☎ 1411

Chinese Cultural Center Th 1/22
Interested in Chinese culture & more? Lost on elevator then opened door for you. Gentleman in black coat too shy & polite to approach you in public. Please call; leave nameph. ☎ 1507

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Donde Estas ?
Ambitious man, 33, para a Latino companion, my masculine, para toda la vida. Soy, hard working, H.I.V., y des-esperadamente por tu amor. Soy 5'10", 175#, Negro, Pensioen u. ☎ 1210

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 6'2", 185#, 38, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV- extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1211

Are You Broad Minded?
Caribbean gay male looking for guys into liberal politics, affirmative action, music from Salta to Classic. Good movies and sense of humor. You could be any race. I am 5'9 y/o and very sensual. ☎ 1212

WM 40sHIV+ Seeks GBM/GWM
Im looking for compatible man for dating, romance, companionship, LTC. Im 6' 175#, affectionate, mostly bottom/enjoy travel, movies, friends, humor, etc. ☎ 1213

ISO Two Hot Latin Lovers
You must be 18-28, 5'8", 9 in, or more, swimmers built, horny. Im GWM, 32, 5'6", 155#,br,hzl,horny. ☎ 1214

High Quality GAM
5'8", 140#, professional, honest and caring. Seeking other quality gay en for movies, theatre, travel, quiet times and possible LTR. ☎ 1215

Boy Holes Frenched
Mindless blow jobs performed. Dark blond hair/perfect body, 5'10", late thirties, twinkler and real, gentle, honest, passionate, cute. ☎ 1216

Very Handsome All-American GM
36, athletic/muscular build, 6', 180#, straight acting, good sense of humor, honest HIV- Seeking good looking, masculine GAM 18-26, nice body and similar characteristics for friendship/ dating. ☎ 1217

HIV+ Eastbay Latin Top Wanted
HIV+, bottom, 35, 6', 185#. Blondish, blue, cute-pie seeks snuggly budgie, Capricorn or Virgo smoker. ☎ 1218

HIV Latin W/boat Wanted
HIV + bottom, blub/r, 6', 185#, 35, seeks divorced sailor with cigar and kids. Easyday preferred. I live in the Pittsburg/Concord area. ☎ 1219

Man Seeks Manmate
Hello, my name is Ron. I seek a male who desires to be with a shaven intimate company with a older guy, LTR. Call for particulars. No one need apply beyond the age of 26. ☎ 1220

End Of The World.
Wake Up. What time is it? Unconventional G8M, seeks GM for love/mate. 38, 6' 177#, slim w/goatee. Love mate 34ish to 42ish, slim, avg., looks, get ready, early morning love. ☎ 1221

Conscious Contact Heart&Soul
GWM, 48, 6', 190#, Red Irish, stud. Loving, aware, spiritual, funny. Sks. friends for movies, swimming, steam, mutual massage & new adventures. Bodies are great, Souls are better. Bill W. friends welcome. ☎ 1255

Actual Nice (Mostly) Guy
Who likes music, outdoors, travel, reading, conversation, humor. 6' 170", 40, brn/gm, good shape (42), u.c. I'm prof., grown-up articulate & some say gdlikg. Looking for companionship & more, with complementary guy. ☎ 1222

New to Bay Area/Non scene
In shape GWM, 35, b/blu, seeks GAM for friendship, fun, LTR, possible. Non smoker & a plus. ☎ 1223

Seeking Buddy
WM, 6' 175#, brbr, hairy, athletic, attractive, healthy HIV-, 42, bottom seeks younger inexperienced top buddy for encounters. Be honest, caring, discreet, and straight acting. ☎ 1224

Bohemian Aristocrat, 57, 150#
Soulful man who feels foolishly, thinks kinkily, tastes tastefully, sees sensibly, and is fragrant free. Non-Anglo preferred. ☎ 1225

Handsome Young Boy Needs Dad
I can't find you here in Arizona. Me: Hispanic, 5'7" 130#, bottom, HIV- Great personality. You: 30-45, attractive, financially secure & stable. GWM, looking for LTR. ☎ 1226

Full Of Energy
Packed to the brim with talent, young man seeks gentlemen for secret rendezvous and special times. Into spirituality. ☎ 1227

Are You Bottom Enough.???
To handle this top, hairy, tato's man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195#, masculine & muscular. 8", 40#, handsome, who loves punting for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40. ☎ 1228

Spread'em On My Service
GWM, 52, ISO B! or married guy under 40y. You need oral face and aft. Discreet, HIV-, E. Bay, clean and sweaty. ☎ 1229

ISO Group Sex
ISO young well hung guys to do 3-45 to be a cumdum. Im 30, 5'6", 150,br/hzle, versatile bottom. ☎ 1230

Hiv + Seeking Romantic/Friendship
Goodlooking GWM, 6', 220#, 35y/o, healthy mind and body, workout, cook, travel, love the outdoors. Be honest, sweet and adventurous. Any race. ☎ 1306

Bottom Daddy
Muscular, masculine dad, 6', 190#, 45, seeking dominant dads or sons. Let me wrap my hot tip, right, tight around your hard dick and ride bareback. ☎ 1307

Romantic Asian Lover
Smooth skin, slender, cute brown butt, nice body, medium swimmer build. You: GWM, clean shaven, stable, fit, healthy, brn, Dutch +, not into scene, possible relationship. NS,ND, No rice queens. ☎ 1308

Seeking A Romantic Lover
GAM, Filipino, over 30, height and weight proportionate. Romantic, love to cuddle, kiss and romance. Seeks GWM, with the same quality interests. Must be understanding and relationship oriented. Please call if apply to you. ☎ 1309

Sexy Exotic Asian ISO White
Goodlooking, Asian, 25,5'10", 150# ISO white to 35 for dating, possibly LTR. Me: nice heart, personality, body. Bisexual welcome. ☎ 1310

I Want You!!!
Wanted: One GWM, bottom, 48-55 yrs, who wants more than a one night sexual heating. Offered: One GWM, top, late 40's, I drinker/smoker. ISO LTR no beads pls. I'm affectionate and communicative. ☎ 1311

New Years Eve 1999
Would like to have a LTR by then, if not friends will do. I'm Latin, 26, 5'7", 165#, stocky, muscular body student. Seeking Latins or whites under 40, N/S. ☎ 1312

HIV + Hispanic Seeks BM
GWM, 27 years old, 5'10", 155#, HIV+, bottom, is seeking for a black male, HIV+, top, in SF. ☎ 1313

Gay White Male Seeks Everyone
Who is alive, not dead, seeks race at all, 18 to middle age, has mind and feelings. Yours truly is 50 y/o & All of above ☎ 1314

Forget HOW BIG (or small)
Your rock hard dick is. All my cocksucking skill concentrates on the important thing: maximizing your load. Try it, we'll like it! Regular service available. ☎ 1315

Big Shoes Big Gloves
Former athlete loves all sports; gourmet cook, artist; enjoys museums, dining out, travel, theatre, movies; sarcastic humor; sentimental; call for dating & maybe more; 6'8", 350#, 40 GWM. ☎ 1417

This Is A Cicksucking Ad
Because I need further fine tuning toward striking gold at next summer olympics. Already so good my clients regularly re-peat. Betsy you will too! ☎ 1316

Devoted Btm Boy
Seeks worthy top under 40, who enjoys being adored. Latin/Mediterranean and smokers a +. 30 y/o. Boy is 5'10", 150#, bnd/blu. Not into humiliation or pain. ☎ 1317

Iconoclastic, Imaginative
Individualistic man sought by professional Indian GM, 31, for unflected, pleasant conversations, leading to friendship, maybe more. ☎ 1318

Dad Needs Son For LTR
GWM, 6', 185#, 56, HIV-, brn/blu, moustache, smart, F/P/G/A, seeks GWM, 30s, to early 40s, slim to med. build who likes home life, movies and long walks. ☎ 1319

What's Not To Love?
HIV+ WGM mostly bottom. Into music, food, concerts. I'm 5'10", 140#, honest, articulate, reciprocal, employed, longhair and goatee. If you're still reeking call and we'll talk about you. ☎ 1320

Ready For Ownership?
Daddy/Master: WM, 50's, 6', 170#, fit intelligent, silver fox, stable, successful urbanite. You/slave: lean, smooth or shaven, submissive, obedient, need direction and security. Sane, S/M, B/D, shavings, WS. ☎ 1321

Older Seeking Younger For Real
Middle aged, slim, non-stereotype, not sugar-daddy. Enjoy kiking, humor, hot sex, warm intimacy, whatever! Seek 20-35, genuine, open, intriguing... For equal, loving, mutually-supportive relationship, preferably open. ☎ 1322

East Bay Men Of Color
Sought by mature GWM to enjoy our romantic sides whether in front of the fireplace or in Carmel. Prefer under 40, sensual, kisser, bottom, and 5'9" or shorter, and adventurous ☎ 1323

Seeking Asian Tops!
R U out there? I'm 42yo., 6'2", 195 #, affectionate, healthy HIV+, mostly bottom, GWM who loves to cuddle, kiss and suck. Seeking LTR/lover, or fuck-buddy. You should be over 25 y/o, smooth, intelligent, masculine and honest. ☎ 1324

Sleepless In Seattle
GBM 39, 6', 240#, attractive, sensitive, sincere, seeks an HIV-, nonsmoking, sincere, stocky or heavy set bottom GM for a monogamous LTR. Would love to move to the Bay Area for the right man. ☎ 1325

Hunky Handsome Loving Package
Top quality GWM wants passionate relationship and possible LTR. I'm 6'2", 190#, 40s, 45", 15" s, 33" w, very muscular, rugged handsome Italian. I'm hot, soulful, loyal, sincere, exclusive, talented, professional, healthy as a horse. HIV+ non progressor. I'm sexually charged from puppy to lover. Looking for similar 35-45 yrs. GWM, who is grounded, sensitive, successful, secure, who has experienced and wants a grade A relationship, full of mental, emotional exploration with new limits. A man to look me in the eye, die for my body, and live for my soul. Prefer racial fair. Serious, stable, secure men only. Please call. ☎ 1326

Seeking Mr. Right!
GWM 23, 5'7", 135#, 8" cut, new to SF. Im looking to start a friendship, moving to be Mexican/Black, +, versatile. Willing to meet anybody. Are you ready? I am. ☎ 1415

Wanted: Monogamous Lover
Me: Romantic, responsible thoughtful, witty, secretly shy, 6', 250 #, NS, HIV-, attorney, 49. Interests: Animals, ballet, opera, concerts, gym, movies. You: Honest, affectionate, gentle, thin, NS, HIV- ☎ 1416

Alameda GWM Professional
6', 34, 210#, HIV interests: theater, movies, travel, hiking, cooking. Looking for some excitement to rest my interest in gay life from another jocular-(not jock) personality. ☎ 1418

Goodlooking Greek/Latino
27, 6', tight body, goatee, looking to date 20-40 yr old white body. Films, hiking, hot sex... ☎ 1419

Kiss, Cuddle, Torture?
GWM, 31, 6', 195#, HIV- Dark hair, half beard, fur, weight just right. Sometimes kinky (vers). Seeking similar for on-going fun. Musts: Kissing, facial fur. Must nots: smoking. ☎ 1420

Fun Musician Writer
WMM hearted, Irish Italian, 50, 5'11", 190#, young-looking, sporty, seeks decent, fit versatile, masculine men, 28-49, friendship, LTR. ☎ 1470

All Around Nice Guy Seeks Same
Goodlooking guy, 5'8", 150, brbl, goatee, 43, HIV+ (healthy), n-smoker, loves music (jazz,rb,country), films, books, working out. Looking for goodlooking, humorous, honest man, 30-45 in the city. ☎ 1471

Wishing For Dad
GAM, cute, NS, honest, affectionate, seeks GWM, straight acting, loving, Dad 40-60, bearded, goatee, moustache. Enjoy movies, theater, etc. son has lot of things to offer, take care your needs, possible LTR. ☎ 1421

Sunnyvale Looking For The One
Blk. male 38, 5'8", 175 #. Body builder type, nice looking, seeking versatile, affectionate NS,ND, any race, GM, Asian/Latinos a +, 25 to 40 yrs old. ☎ 1422

GWM Seek Other GWMs
Let's start with dinner which could lead to romance and/or romantic life as soulmates. I am 35, 6', 175#. Some say handsome. You must have a positive outlook on life and look cute, a plus. ☎ 1519

Romantic Professional
GWM, S. Bay, 5'10", 170#, green eyes, brown hair, fit, masculine, ISO younger man 30-40, white, Asian, Hispanic, honest, sincere, for monogamous LTR. ☎ 1523

HIV+ Latin Top ISO Hot Lover WWM
Healthy and straight acting. I'm always horny. (32) You: older, masculine, in shape, and looking for someone to spoil. Possible LTR. ☎ 1423

Want To Date:
GWM, 28, 5'9", b/blu, wide variety of interest in and out of bed, mostly bottom. Seeking adventurous top for dating. I am new to Bay Area, emotionally and financially secure. Age, race, open. Please be height/weight proportionate and have the mind set of dating with the goal of LTR. ☎ 1423

Goodlooking, Secure GWM
41, 5'7", brbr, 135. Healthy HIV+ +, seeks versatile GWM 35-50, for dating, poss. LTR. No drugs, bullshit. ☎ 1423

I Keep Looking...
For someone older, taller & top. Blue colored hair and mind, good body, 33yo, sensual, passionate & bright. Do you keep looking too? Need we look anymore? ☎ 1426

Looking For A Son
I never had, for friendship, camping, hiking, by Wm 5'6", 140#, active 60s. Like leather/rubber, "bound" to have fun, LTR desired Asian+ +. ☎ 1427

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32 y/o dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, like to go to movies, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel, looking for GWM between 25-37 y/o for friendship or more. Just call. ☎ 1428

Wants to be a Boy 34, 6', 175#
GWM boyishly handsome, professional, dark hair, healthy mind, body & spirit. likes tennis, camping, out-doors, movies, music. Looking for Attractive, Latino, White male, 25-35, black, healthy, top, masculine and happy. ☎ 1501

Adventuresome Masculine GLM?
Handsome professional 37 GWM, honest, sincere, ambitious, affectionate and fun-loving, would like to meet younger masculine GLM with similar qualities. ☎ 1509

Free Spirit
WM 35, HIV+, 5'10", 175#. Attractive, active, healthy mind, body & spirit. likes tennis, camping, out-doors, movies, music. Looking for Attractive, Latino, White male, 25-35, black, healthy, top, masculine and happy. ☎ 1510

Why are there always let's more
Would-be cocksuckers than cocks to suck? Search me. I just know that to keep clients any cocksucker better be as good as I am. Bet you repeat! ☎ 1511

Frill-Free Cocksucking
HIV+ Full out your hard dick, uncut a plus. I suck it off pronto. Bye. No chit chat. Reg sv avail. ☎ 1512

US Olympic Cocksucking team!
Captain Emeritus here. Beaucoup D'or. But since action speaks louder than words, just put me out right. Bet you'll cum again! ☎ 1513

Good Catch!
Intelligent GBM 25, makes good lookin but a little shy, very quick it difficult to find mr. right. Need to bring me out of my shell. ☎ 1514

R U Cut????
I am not. ISO uncut guy for regular sex. Tell me about you. How you like it. ☎ 1515

Let's Get Together
37yr GAM, avid filmpgrr, likes dining and travel. Seeking friendship/relationship with GWM ages 35-50 y/o. ☎ 1516

Bright Eyes ISO Asian Lover
If you are a slim cleanshaven GAM, this GWM is hopeful of LTR. Im 6', 185#, brbl, affectionate, kind, loving, sincere, patient. Honest. ☎ 1517

Big Heart, Big Brain, Big Dick
Seeks same, for playful romance, intense intellectual conversation, and passionate sex. I'm a college teacher, 33, 190#, 6'1", goatee, HIV-. You're 20-40, medium/slim, HIV. ☎ 1518

Can't Catch Anything In The St
Except a cold. Mediterranean like guy desired by romantic mid-30s Scandinavian like man. Reflecting about ideas, life, arts. HIV-. ☎ 1520

Pizza, Picasso, and Pecs
These are a few of my favorite things! GWM, 47, 5'9", 155, HIV-, brbl. Great body and mind looking for a gallery restaur, bed buddy. You: 35+, in shape, in heat, intrigued, minority a + + +. ☎ 1521

Sex Slave Wanted
GWM, 54, 5'7", 145, masculine top, HIV-. You: HIV+, totally obedient, willing to give over control, under 40, B/D. ☎ 1522

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 6'2", 185#, 38, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV- extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1524

Boys to Men Line
Your real momma and poppa bottom. You start a boy and come out a man! We learn each other, fantasies traded, love given/received, multiple sessions all races! ☎ 1525

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Are you Bottom Enough???

To handle this top, hairy, tato man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195#, masculine/muscular, hung 8", passionate, w/ love pumping for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40, 1228

Spread'em On My Face

GWM, 52, ISO, BI or married guy under 40 y/o. You need oral service fore, n, after. Discreet, HIV-, E. Bay, clean and sweaty. 1229

ISO Group Sex

ISO young well hung guys to do. I love to be a cumdum. Im 30, 5'6", 150#, br/hzl, versatile. 1230

Love It Want It Need It!

GWM, 47, 165#, 5'8", masc, submissive bottom, goodlooking, healthy HIV+. ISO regular sex buddies to fuck my hot, tight ass, safe/long. Prefer WM or BM, 35-55, fit, masc., hot. 1231

DOM Older seeks SUB Younger

For uninhibited sex scene. In early 70's and attr. You are 18-40, submissive and sexy. Daddy-son, master-slave, just good friends scenes explored. 1232

Seeking Fuck Buddies

Goodlooking Italian guy 32, goodshape seeking two young hot guys for three way action. I have brbr, 5'10", 170#. Clean cut. You are both goodlooking and well hung!! Lets have fun, call... 1233

I Suck Real Cowboys & Aussies

Slam, well hung guys kick back for slow, sensual blow jobs on priv. Basement massage table. Hot mouth, tongue takes ur load. No recip. 1234

Top Man Seeks Hot Young Head

WM, 40s, HIV-, very masculine in shape dominant top seeks submissive, HIV- body under 30 with cumj hungry deep throat into older men for long sessions at your SF place. 1235

Wanted Macho Hispanics

Goodlooking GWM, 40, 195# and 6' tall, also HIV+, seeks all Latin studs for good sex. You must be young 18-30, food looking, and ready to have a good time. Leave your #. 1236

Seeking Shorter Studs

GWM, young 40, 5'9", 155#, HIV-, bulding, stach, in shape, is hot for in-shape 5'5"-5'9" tops. Lets play! 1237

Master ISO Slave

GWM seeks GWM slave for full time service. Be muscular and totally submissive, to age 45. 1238

Hairy And Well Built Man

Handsome and mostly top, wants to meet aggressive, hairy, mostly bottom man, wearing something tight and brief. Dard blonde, clean shaven, 5'10", 175#, gr-garulous, love to laugh. Lets play...Hard. 1239

5 Well Endowed Black Men!!

Thats my fantasy, to be gang banged by 5 blackmen, me: 5'8", 145# hairy chest, stache, goatie. I am your sex slave for the night. 1240

South Bay Redhead Seeks GBM

GWM, 6', 175#, 36, masculine, hairy chest, goatie, stache, seeks San Jose area GBM, top for sexual encounters. Tall and/or hung, a+. 1241

Potrero Hillbilly Seeks Filipino

Asian, Vietnamese U/S top. Looks age unimportant. V/A attitude a+++. All you can drink in exchange for all I can recycle. Call now!! 1242

Mutual Oral Pleasure

GWM, 45 y/o, HIV+, 5'10", 150, ruggedly handsome, healthy, work out, great kisser, seeks men 40-50 Ht. w/ prop.) for mutual oral pleasures and friendship. 1243

Wanted: Older Man Of Color

Cute, bouish, WM, 37, 5'7", 135, oral, bottom, versatile, seeks safe sexual fun with African American or Latin man. Looks, unimportant, uncult A+. 1244

Bigger

Asian men sought by dark, handsome caucasian: 40, fit, friendly, 160# +, natural buff preferred. Hot, discreet, very playful, plenty of time. 1246

2 French GWM 28-32 Years Old

In SF wanted American GWM 25/35 for go out and speak English. 1248

Prostate Massage

GWM seeks GM who enjoys having his inner organ rubbed, stroked, and massaged. Im 51, 5'8", 175, br/bm, beard, HIV-. 1249

Spanking Fantasies

Light and sensual to heavy. Novices welcome. Sex optional but preferred. Me: at-rac, GWM, 48, 6'5", 250#, large husky build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: attrac. Gwhite/Asian, latin, slim, nice buns. 1327

Hairy Ass Bisex Iranian Man

Goodlooking ar/eyes, goatie, muscular, huge nipples looking for top into the art of stretching a virgin ass. 1328

Newly Single Bottom

Attractive, masculine, GBM, 32, 5'6", 145#. I need to suck some dick. Long haired, Haight St. whiter guys desired. Under 35. Great head, tight ass. 1329

Young Men

WM, 27, 6'1", 170#. Goodlooking, gentle, athletic, masculine top. HIV- seeks cute, slim, smooth younger guys for tender kissing fuckins. White Asian boys a+. Br/HV- safe. 1330

Fellatio, Effluence, And

Petrissage (massage) in my home wnted by voluptuous European 56. I have table, aromatherapy, candlelight, bells, chimes, silk sheets and satyrasis. 1332

Hot Latino Guy Like's To Suck

And get fucked, Redwood City Area under 45, please call. 1439

Oakland Guy

WM, 33, HIV+, healthy, seeks other positive guys for mutual j0 and oral. Not into the club scene, so we can party at my place. Shaved a+. 1333

Bear Boy Sks Big Bear Meat

39/63/200#, bottom ready for well hung, horny tops who enjoy filling a hungry bottom. All well hung welcum. 1334

L, XL, or XXXL Meat?

37-62-195, hot bottom puts it all to good use. Deep throat and hungry bubble butt await hung men. Hot bottom serves all hung. 1335

Boylfriend/Hung Top HIV Wanted

Me: 40, 6'3", 185#, brn/gm, mustache, lightly hairy, bottom, HIV+, handsome, horny, affectionate, (650) area. You: top-man, 35-45, handsome, height/weight proportionate, well hung, hairy, uncult ok, smoker ok, honest and sincere a must. You won't be sorry. 1336

Seeking Playmate Top

For GWM, hairy, football build, into all ass play and kink. top requested to be 50 or younger, experienced preferred, well endowed, smooth, light to no hair. Play-room and leather a plus. Gay White, Black or Latino males, please respond. 1337

Hot Leatherboy/Urinal in/Top Bod

ISO: Lean total bodytop/hulldud for training, w/s, hose downs, urinal duty, diaper discipline, sucking/pin/stapin/bondage/hoods, public scenes, denigration, humiliation, control. Dungen/playroom, LTR a big plus Sir! 1338

How Much More Can You Shoot

Than you ever shot before? Just let me run down on your nice hard meat and we'll see find out. Your outfit (if any) remains stain free. I swallow the evidence! 1339

Strict Disciplinarian Needed

By Asian 51 y/o, 5'7", 145#, healthy, trim. Needs regular discipline, spking, prolonged TT U 8 W/H 35-60 y/o, very clean trim, discreet. I will obey! Thank you Sir. 1340

Seeking Lowbuddy Bottoms/Tops

In groups or single HIV+. Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma co., first time, mature married, daytime, your place, plenty of liquid armor. Jocks, pits, holes, etc. 1341

Pussy Boy Wanted

Br hot dad, 49, in shape, 6', 195#, 46"chest, 15" arms, 33" w, 7 1/2. Time to purr and twitch. 1342

Looking For Young Sex Partner

27 VGL, GWM, 5'10", 165#, blkr/b, gym-toned, seeks 20-30 y/o, smooth, must be VGL, & in good shape. U do my fantasies, I do yours. 1343

Suck Off And More

You rock in my mouth. My tongue in your slit hole. Your bladder full of piss. Your hair full of protein. Asians & Latins especially. Same day/night call back. 1429

Wanted: Big Hairy Firm Butt

Well built aggressive top, big firm, needs wellbuilt WM (20s-30s) with big firm hairy butt to eat and fuck. 1430

Discreet Bi-WM

Handsome, 45. Seeks other 8i-WMs, fit, 25-40, first timers ok, married ok, with a few discreet encounters. Professional men A+. San Mateo. No others need answer. 1431

Got A Hot Ass

GWM 5' 11", 170, HIV-, N/S/N/D, like suck cock and get fucked like 7" to suck. Age & race unimportant. Videos to watch. Call. 1432

White Pussy Boy !!!

Needs well endowed black man for regular sucking & fucking. Me: 5'8", 145, hairy chest stache, You: big dick for white pussy. 1433

ISO Expert Cocksucker

GWM, top, brn, hzl, 180, 5'11", smooth, nice pouch. ISO: White or Latin expert deep throat cocksucker w/excellent gag control, to take my load, extended servicing clean, serene. 1434

Sanoma County Oral Virtuoso

For slender-medium guys, 18-35, regular, daytime, no reciprocation expected. I'm middle age, attractive, healthy, relaxed, generous. Initially meet someplace public, no obligations. Love domination by cute, smooth boy-type. 1331

Older Men Wanted

GWM, HIV-, 110#, 5'2", stache, 55yo, with very hot tight little ass, need fingers, hands or cock's. Also have 7" cock and nice balls that need be stretched hard. Please be adventurous & horny. 1435

Wanted GAM

To work my tight little ass slow and sensual and deep. Most guy's hands are to big and can't get in. I need to get it front and rear at the same time. I'm 55yr, 5'2", 115#, stache, HIV-. GWM. You must like F.F, CBT, and kinky procedures. I need it all. 3 ways's OK!! 1436

Hung Tops-Fuck This

Cute GBM, 5'8", 145#, tight deep fresh hole needs pounding by big fat dick (slightly ruff ok). U cute, muscular, 9" + or XX thick, with stamina, 3 ways ok, out. 1437

ISO Poz LeatherDad

Boy, handsome, 5'7", 135#, smooth, muscular swimmer, seeks 40-50, clean, muscular, hairy butt-cheeked Dad with restraints and mild flogger to party all night for multiple servises. 1438

ISO River Area Handball Buddy

Insatiably bottom masculine outdoor guy gives it up to expert top who knows mancumt. Be experienced safe, sane, intelligent, HIV neg. UB2. 1440

A Hole You Can Use

Masc, GBM, slim, trim, 38, 5'11", 150#, goatie, uninhibited, with a hole you can use your way. Buddy fucks or 1 on 1. You, H/W/prop. & you're ready to fuck now. 1441

Always's Horny? Get Sucked !

Well-hung, trim cauc., guys kick back for slow sensual blow-jobs. Hot mouth & tongue takes ur big loads, multiple loads A+. 1442

Cum Onna My House

Escape roommates, wives, girlfriends. Slim, well-hung cauc. studs kick back for sensual blow job on my private, secluded massage table. Hot mouth takes ur load. 1443

Ever Wish You Had 3 Good...

Buddies to fuck around with. Sexual affiliation group forming. Qualifications include felishes, looks, and being truly open-minded. Call for a phone interview. 1444

Boot Pigs Boot Worship

Men into boots, worthy for hot private boot worship parties. Boot boys, boot pigs, boot masters. All welcome. 1445

Dad Train This Pussy Boy

To be your sex head. Br/38, GWM, 5'7", 140#, shaved head, mustache, goatie and tattoos. 1446

Strip Search

Slender plain cloth amateur cop wants to order you around if you are masculine with a lean build and under 40. I'm 41 with a goatie and a nicely chiseled 7 inch-er. 1447

Hot XX-Hung Blonde Top

Seeks xx-hung smooth bottoms. I'll give you A+ head, then use your dicks as a kickstand & fuck you right!! 1448

Just Shut-Up And Ride!

WM, 33, 5'10", 200#, B/blu, muscle hum, 48", 33" w, 81#) wants good-looking masculine men to pump, or get pumped, full of squirt, anytime. 1449

Endless Oral

Masculine GWM, 45, 6', 185#, healthy po, balding/buzz, hwt, proportionate, gm, hung, videos. ISO similar to healthy oral. You: thin to muscular, NS, Polk area A+. 1450

Hot Duo Seck Third Sex Buddy

Hung top, hungry bottom seeking hung top to versatile. Us: 30s, goodlooking in-shape white studs. UB: hung big, decent shape, ready 2 play. 1452

Asways Horny? Get Sucked!!

Slim, well-hung cauc., guys kick back for slow, sensual blow-jobs on my secluded massage table. Hot mouth sucks ur load. Blue-eyed brunettes A+. 1453

Black Men Of Marin City

If you need love, affection and sex, guide me to your city. I am GWM, obedient bottom that needs to be dominated and shared by other blackmen. 1454

Big Nipple Daddy Bottom Pig

Wants pig partner for daytime play my place. UB GWM, trim. 1454

Oral SVC For Asian Men

SF, GWM, 45, 6'1", 190#, handsome, delivers complete oral service to trim, mature, masculine Asian men. HIV-. No reciprocation required. 1455

8 Inches Want A Tight Fit?

Hot friendly bottoms, are you ready to play? With 8 thick uncult inches on a black top who is insaph, hairy and loves to put it in the right places. 1526

Saint Caligula

ISO White or Latin hung studs, sex, soccer, wrestling. Me, 22, 5'6", 150#, muscular. You: 18-32, and in very good shape. (HIV-) only. 1527

Top Man Seeks Hot Young Head

WM 40s HIV- very masculine insaph dominant top seeks submissive HIV- boy under 30 with cum hungry deep throat into older men for long sessions at your place. 1528

ISO Young Leather Slave Novice

Expert Sonoma County leather master seeks submissives 18-35 for comprehensive training. All scenes. I can take you where you want to go boy! Safe sane HIV-. UB2. 1529

Will Thou Be Number 19,998?

To achieve my cocksucking expertise, I've trained on 19,997. So I know how. You'll: A-shoot your max. 8 aspires to #19,999. (Book now for landmark #20,000!) 1530

Wanted: Versatile Boy 18-28

I am versatile 5'10" GWM attractive, looking for fun, sex, and who knows. Let's have fun. 1531

Mature Mexican Masculine Dad

Seeks a guy needing discretion and hot head. Age, looks, race, unimportant. Just need it bad! Like you only fantasize but haven't found! Uncult, HIV-, Latino, juicers A+. East Bay. 1532

Hot Action Wanted

23 GWM 5'7", 130#, 8 cut, blond blue: Young, hot and very versatile. Looking to service (more?) muscular mexicans, latinos and black men. 18-30. Cut okay, uncult a real plus. 1533

Kick Back!

GWM 5'10", 160#, br/br, c/n shaven, fun, friendly, luv to suck cock and ball's. Seek with your pecs, cock balls, until you cum! 1535

GBM Seeking WM Bodybuilders

Types: Me: muscular, 6'4", 210, looking for safe fun with big, stocky or muscular guys. Very masculine and like the same. Let's have some fun!! 1536

Spread Your Legs

Open your mouth and say ahhhh. I'm a handsome muscular Italian who loves sex. I have a wide range of men I like. David. 1537

Wanted: Well-Endowed Men

Goodlooking GWM, 35, 6', 185#, and HIV+, seeks goodlooking guys who are well endowed, 20-35, enjoy sex, and have free time to have fun. All nationalities welcome. Leave your #. 1538

Hung Oakland Black Man 45

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Hot Piece Of Ass To Fuck

If you are thin and have a hard, defined physique and love to get fucked, then this 6'1", 190#, 44 y/o, fit, muscular guy would love to provide you with hours of hot, steamy pleasure! 1539

Gay Seeks Fun

I am GWM 30ish, goodlooking, energetic, and deal guy seek to share entertainments plus love. I love swimming, hiking, camping, rent VCR movies, bicycling, skiing, tennis, racquet, weightlifting to stay fit. I love to share laughter and good food. Please no screaming femme, barfly, ND and NS. I am attracted to Hombrs with wolf howls. If you are reading up to this point, please call and let's see if we can go out and have blast time!! 1540

HotGuyW/ToerKngSksFootBuddy

Masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal, naked, smelling, caressing, massaging, licking body closeness, safe s/O fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles ok. Further friendship welcomed. 1460

Daddies N2 FF W Facial Hair

Need ongoing spiritual revelation w/levi, versatile top. GWM/GWM, HIV +, N2 dildos, TT, FF, Me, GBM, 6'1", 200#, sht, up hair and goatie. Need soulmate. 1250

Hairy Men Get Me Hot. Real Hot

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Hairy Daddy Bear Will Work Balls

Hairy daddy bear 50, 5'11", 220#, 6' 1/2 " UC, very hairy, looking for boy balls to manipulate to extasy. You must enjoy working forekin. 1252

ISO The Feminine Touch

Masculine LM 42, 6', 155#, moderately hry. ISO younger effeminate looking/acting man to give me slow sensual oral pleasure all over, no SM, BD, or pain. 1253

Bad Spankings For Bad Boys

By muscular top. Novices ok. Limits respected & expanded. If you're reading this ad, you know you need it! Over my knee-now! All calls returned. 1254

Rimseal Service For Raunch Top

Masculine, very muscular, smooth, rasty, bottom seeks scald/piss top (top & under 45 only) for intense toilet training & service. 1344

Whack It!!!

Mature daddy seeks younger (that's most anyone) for JO. Interested in having a nice time with a pleasant man. Affectionate-fun-relaxed. 1345

2 Drag Queens Wanted 1st Time

2 drag-queens wanted! 1st time me: Bi-Hm, 50-seeks drag-queens, black nyons, & phone suck, fuck sessions.. 1346

Seeks Nipple Pig For Hot Fun

GWM, 43, HIV+, smoker, 5'10", 190#, br/br, goatie, seeks serious nipple pig for mutual action-suck, pump, weights, the bigger the better. Cowboy boots & blond hair a+. Be sincere. 1347

Bondage For Bodybuilders

WM, late 40's, wants to see your muscles flex and strain as I tie you up and play with your pecs, cock balls, until you cum! 1349

Raw Fuck/Fist Top/Vers. Wanted

By this masculine, handsome WM. Me: 36, 5'9", 170#, versatil. I'm looking for regular sessions with a fit, smooth armed top, 18-35. Asians A+. 1456

Expert Deepthroat Wanted

Well-endowed, uncult 8M wants male who can take it all. Looks, age and race unimportant. Just be exceptionally talented and live in city. Suck and swallow A+. your place. 1457

Devoted Nutsuckers

Suck and tongue my smooth pair. Butt rimmers welcome too. Reward: Huge meat. Your age, looks unimportant, but dedication to ball/ass worship is. 1458

Here Ye, Mountain Bears & Pigs

Hungry n-beerly GWM/GWM HIV+, N2, T+T, dildos, FF, and bondage. Levi/leather. Me: GBM, 205#, 6'1", versatile. Top: slip and slide, sturppes, candles!!! 1459

Versatile Rugged Leather Pig

Seeks rugged rockhard beefy, big dicked muscle buddies for intense, nasty, raunchy, rough sweaty sex. 1461

Too Time W/Husky Bears &

Out There

◀ page 38

hear a little bitching in the elevator about how it paid to have been a performer at the awards show, but this didn't guarantee a statuette for Aviance or the Murmurs, who were among the losers.

Oh, that's right. As had been decreed early on by the sluttishly elegant **Jackie Beat** (who rued the lack of an award for the best use of naked male buttocks on an album cover), there were no losers on this most GLAMArOUS of nights: "Only those who failed to win. Ha. Ha."

To be Vree

Fashion goddess **Diana Vreeland**, the inspiration for the one-woman show *Full Gallop* starring **Elizabeth Ashley** now at the Stage Door Theatre, has been many things to many people. To **Andy Warhol**, the spectacle of Vreeland eating a banana was enough to merit a mention in his diaries. To **Truman Capote**, La Vreeland called to mind **Jimmy Durante** impersonating the **Duchess of Windsor**. But our own roving critic-at-large **Robert Julian** goes Tru one better and in-



H.F. doing I.M.?

sists that Liz Ashley's performance resembles nothing more than **Harvey Fierstein** impersonating **Imelda Marcos**. **Richard Dodds'** review runs on p. 42.

Chatter in the press room at Davies Hall last week prior to the

opening of **MTT's** Mahler 6 centered on the all-**Balanchine** program currently at the SF Ballet. All the cowpokes in the *Western Symphony* reminded at least one raconteur of Balanchine costumer **Karinska's** egregious costumes for Mr. B's so-called "American ballets." The critical wit was moved to cite **Mark Morris** biographer and *Seven Days* critic **Joan Acocella's** famous quip on how Mr. B could put up with such costumes, "What do you expect from a man who wears string ties?"

But if the *bon mots* were flying in the green room, they were as nothing compared to the wrath of the critic disturbed during the concert by the clanging of some excessive jewelry on the woman

seated behind him. "Cowbells in front of me," the distinguished critic declared, referring to Mahler's unusual scoring for percussion, and with a withering glance rear: "Cowbells behind!"



Jodie Foster

Fertile production

Raise your hand if you think it's appropriate that confirmed-preggers **Jodie Foster's** production company is called **Egg Pictures**. According to PopcornQ, the Impregnated One and Egg are busily producing a feature film called *The Baby Dance* starring the fabulous **Stockard Channing** and "Citizen Ruth" herself, **Laura Dern**, as "a lesbian middle-class couple who want to buy a baby from a trailer park Mom." As to the origin, trailer park or otherwise, of the sperm wot got her egg a-bustlin', Jodie's not saying peep.

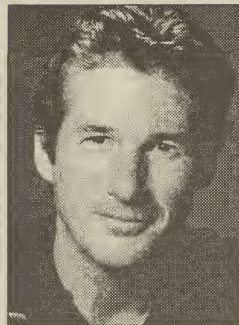
Second-hand caffeine

From the newsletter of the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (just like the Bermuda Triangle, only better decorated) comes word that the Starbucks Coffee coming soon to the remodeled Safeway at Market and Church is seeking a mural artist to paint a 10 x 10-foot mural inside the store. Since the mammoth supermarket complex is ground zero for quite a vivid and diverse little neighborhood, it sure would be appropriate to have the mural created by an artist from the community, not some nameless illustrator from Seattle. Those nice folks at the DTNA didn't furnish a contact number, but maybe if you call them at 863-8650, they'll have a clue as to whom to call and bug at Starbucks.

A photographer and a gentleman

We were on our way to the **Richard Gere** press conference over at the Ansel Adams Center for Photography last week when, it being such a nasty, wet, **El Niño**-ish day, we just had to duck into LuLu for something dry. As it was too early for Happy Hour, there were few patrons, except for one group of cheerful sorts having a **very late lunch**. We were enjoying our **liquid experience** so much we guess we lost track of the time, and only realized we were late for the press event when a blonde, very-pulled-together-looking woman charged in and declared to one gray-haired chap, "Mr. Gere, it's time to go, the press is waiting! You know you're in trouble now!" The jaded, urbane types at the bar being what they are, no one turned to gawk when the movie star got up and took leave of his lunch companions reluctantly, only to exit into the California gloom.

The exhibition of Gere's photographs, *Pilgrim*, is another installment in his continuing crusade to raise awareness about Tibet's plight under Chinese occupation, and to spread Tibetan Buddhist wisdom, culture and compassion. To that end, he



Richard Gere

brought along some Tibetan monks who chanted a prayer intended to remove obstacles, a specialty of the monastery.

"We're a nonprofit, so we can use a lot of that!" declared **Deborah Klockho**, Director of The Friends of Photography Ansel Adams Center.

Poor fantasy choice

Our friend the **film world notable** called to say we had to check out the footage of that "I-wanna-rape-**Steven Spielberg**" stalker on *Entertainment Tonight*. He's gay, he's gorgeous, he's a body-builder, he's a speed freak ... so what's he doing having sexual fantasies about putting it to the dismally dreary director of *Amistad*? We're at a loss to explain this curious obsession, although sources close to **Amy Irving** did once intimate that Mr. *Jaws* has the biggest dick in Hollywood. But we know better than to believe idle, tawdry gossip. At least Mr. Film Impresario has made himself a video from that *ET* segment good for multiple one-handed viewings.

Cochlea ring

We knew it: **lesbians' ears** are different from straight women's ears. According to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, researchers at the University of Texas in Austin found the inner ears of lesbians had undergone what they call "masculinization," probably from hormone exposure before birth. We're not exactly sure what this means, but it does help explain "womyn's music."

Here at the New Porker

Whatever shape *her* ear is in, that *New Yorker* editor **Tina Brown** sure is a meanie! First she cans one of her **top editors** (friend of a friend of a friend) to install one of her Brit pals. Then she takes poet **Ted Hughes'** side over that poor **Sylvia Plath** (and gives him yards and yards of space for his sniveling poems). But the last straw is definitely her recent "California" double issue. We guess that to overheated editrons used to filling the perfumed pages of *Vanity Fair*, "California" translates to "LA and Palm Springs." Doesn't

next page ▶



Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes

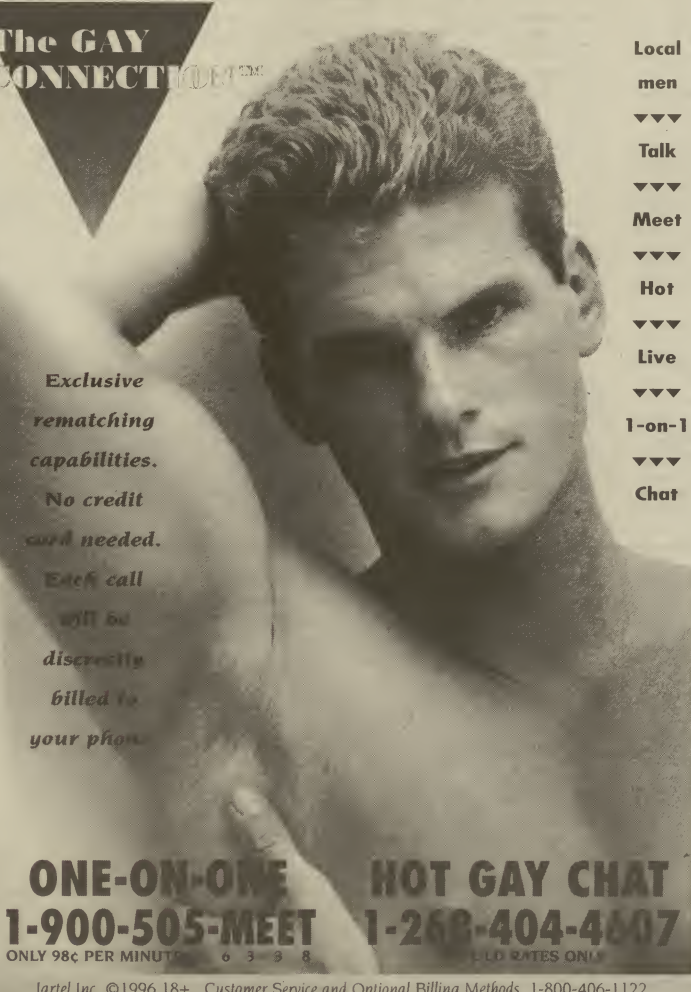


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Out There

◀ previous page

she know or care how our feelings get very, very hurt here in the Gay Area when we feel left out? Won't someone please pay attention to our pathetic stable of local celebrities and petty little squabbles over public art? Our afternoon daily paper always uses upper-case to refer to us — "the City" — because they know how Very Important we are. So why must we beg for scraps from media powerhouses in Manhattan?

Fantastic voyage

At the speed with which the late 90s are careening to an end, you might think that if you haven't plans by now for that Very Important calendare changeover night, you're out of luck. You would be wrong. Though we haven't yet decided which world capital we'll be gracing — Rome, Paris, Montevideo, San Jose — we know we won't be in Merry Olde England, site of the Millennium Dome, the \$1.24 billion white elephant currently rising on the site of Greenwich Mean Time. The *New York Times* reports one of the attractions in the Dome will be an enormous man with a permeable membrane (sound like anyone you know?). "[D]evoted to the body and medicine, visitors will be able to tour the inside of an enormous seated human body, entering in the middle of the back and exiting through the right heel."

Well, we will if we must — but there's definitely something wrong with that entrance/exit route.



Miz Ana

New in town

For some reason, we seem to be channeling drag queens these days. A *notorious little bird* tells us that **Miz Ana**, the "sore loser" at last October's Trannyshack contest, and **Heklina** are in NYC, where they're busy scouring the baths. **Juanita More!** is also in The Big Grapple, hosting all sorts of clubs; and **Justin Bond** is still packin' 'em in as Kiki, at the Flamingo East.

Here's how the **Lady Bunny** read Heklina's beads when they ran into each other at the Life Cafe:

Hekles: Come to Trannyshack when you're in SF!

The Bun: That old club still going on?

Hekles: It's my first night in town!

The Bun: Good, it's my last night in town.

But the big news out of NYC is that apparently "straight" boys are denizens of the drag clubs there. Reportedly, Miz Ana snatched up one of the "straight" boy guitarists of **The Toilet Boys**, a you-knew-them-when rock band playing **Sherry Vine's** happening club Squeezbox. Guess it takes some strong women from SF to take matters in hand in Manhattan. Says our source, "They just love us and our California herbal vibrations!"

Dangerous liaisons

Thanks to all the discriminating little bunnies out there who caught our typo last week tagging the distinguished musician **Carren Levin** as a "painsist." It's alarming what places one's typin'-fool fingers will go when one suddenly has a hole to fill (so to speak) and a glamorous art director breathing down one's neck. We intended no salacious implication about said accompanist's recreational activities.

Our little gaffe still does not beat our all-time favorite B.A.R. typo, committed, as it happens, while we still manned the copy desk. In an article on the risks of HIV transmission, the phrase "le-lions in the mouth" transmogrified during the editing process into "liaisons in the mouth." As our dear friend **Missy Corey** never tires of pointing out, it was a classic spell-checker error, proving once again that flesh-and-blood editors will never be entirely replaced by the soulless machine.

As we were quick to respond at the time, knowing our readership, either formulation is equally possible. ▼

A rage to live

by Patrick D. Hostel

No Lease on Life by Lynne Tillman; Harcourt Brace and Company, \$21

Rage fuels Lynne (Haunted Houses) Tillman's fourth novel, *No Lease on Life*. That incendiary emotion belongs mostly to her main character and central focus, Elizabeth Hall, an East Village resident and part-time proofreader, who spends a great deal of her time looking — or, more accurately, glaring — out the front window of her apartment.

Elizabeth is like some latter-day Roderick Usher, trapped in a noisy, violent world that constantly assaults all her senses. Unlike others in her orbit — her boyfriend Roy, for example — she's constitutionally incapable of ignoring these nonstop jabs to her psyche. Her solution to this madness is to dream up inventive and hilariously gory ways of dispatching the insidious "morons," as she prefers to call them, who lay waste to her world: "She wanted to use a crossbow and steel arrow, much easier to buy than a gun, entirely legal, no waiting period. But crossbows had just been on the news, and she suspected that everyone would be buying them, the way everyone suddenly bought red eyeglasses. Maybe she was too ex-



hausted to be unique, but she would take severe satisfaction in shooting an arrow right into a guy's head — right through the middle of it, between his eyes or from one ear to the other. He'd look like a comic book character sporting that goofy toy pants

ents bought for their kids years ago. Made them look like they'd had their skulls split in half."

The author masterfully takes us through 24 hours in Elizabeth Hall's frenzied, anxious life, from one sleepless night to another, where our hero eventually winds up pulling the sheets over her head in vain anticipation of a visit from Mr. Sandman. Her day is a series of sometimes painful, sometimes humorous, sometimes poignant and sometimes scary encounters with city bureaucracy, the homeless, the police, her dry cleaning, friends and decidedly offbeat acquaintances, among others. Through it all, Tillman doesn't miss a beat, managing to keep up a ceaseless flow of incidents, observations and, yes, jokes that never allow the pace to flag.

No Lease on Life is a terribly up-close and personal examination of urban angst and fury. It is also a funny, frightening and utterly brilliant tour de force. ▼

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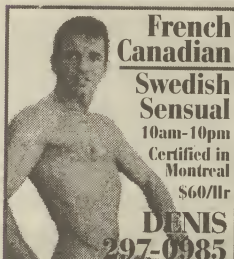
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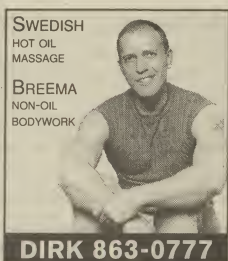
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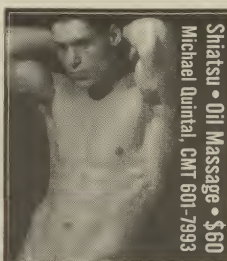
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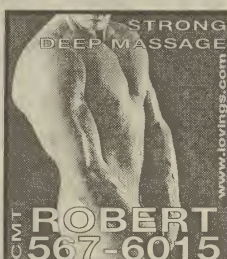
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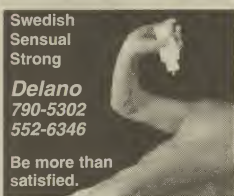


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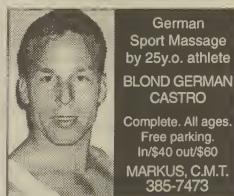
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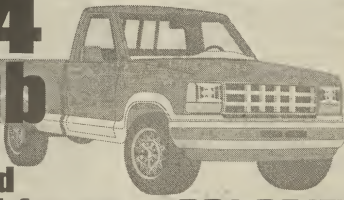
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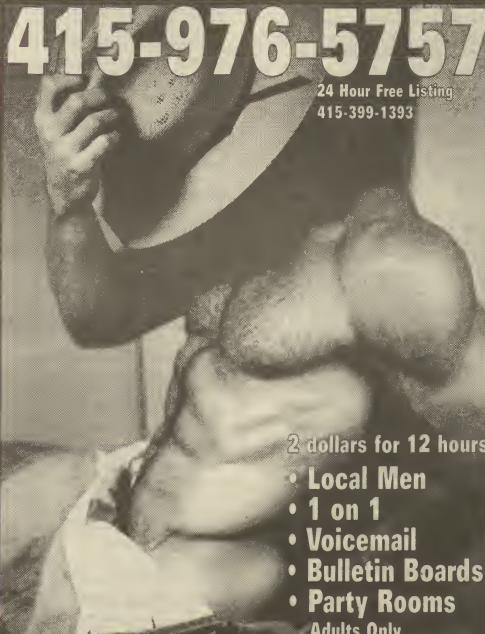
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NUDE HARDCORE SCENES

Versatile guy into all nasty raw sessions-spanking-erotic fantasies. Get naked with John 564-1550 ^{E11}

Versile young athletic jock. Good-looking, clean cut, muscular. Safe fun, 415-270-0904 Jody ^{E11}

Handsome Athletic Latin top. Well hung, discrete. Out calls only. Kieth pager # 303-2819. ^{E11}

The quality you desire, **THE TASTE YOU LOVE** The satisfaction you deserve, for nutritional info: Peter 253-3930. ^{E13}

26 yo Latino top, very handsome is GONNA MAKE U FEEL THE BEST DON'T MISS THE GOOD TIME!!! **ANDRES 527-6096** ^{E12}

Tall, muscular, 185#, w/great pecs, Gd/kg, verbal, 9" cut. 764-6280. **MASCULINE** ^{E12}

BLOND EUROPEAN BEAUTY
303-2770...

19 yo, slim body beautiful!!! GREEN EYES PEARL TEETH DELICIOUS LIPS HARD THIGHS AND BUTT. IF YOU COME I AM UNCUT. ^{E12}

EXECUTIVE ESCORT 6'4", 205#, 36yo, handsome, masc, ve satile & discreet. \$100 min. Trevor @ 415-407-5675 cell phone-24hrs. ^{E12}

Sexy blond jock with wshrd abs & incredible pecs. 28yrs, 5'9", 155lbs, 81/2" c tanned masculine & very handsome, \$80in/\$100out JASON 864-1190. ^{E12}

David, smooth, muscular. **COMPETITIVE DRIVER** Extremely handsome-washboard abs Packed speedo & amazing butt. \$150 versatile 267-5906 ^{E12}

"Complete hot erotic massage" By: gifted model w/gorgeous body **505-4199-24HRS**

In: private/venue (Polk st.) \$80 out. S.F. (Hotels instantly) \$80-100 ^{E12}

Scat W/S, 8" musclr top. 346-4966 ^{E15}

22 yo Mex/Italian **9" UNCUT** Marco 650-985-4554. ^{E12}

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Cleancut all American, hot/hunky x-thick/built, hairy chest/stache. (916) 819-0447 ^{E13}

STILL NOT TAMED

Nudist motorcycle boy, energetic, and friendly, dying to get naked 4 U www.exoticedge.com/men/medar: David 790-4903 ^{E13}

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Smooth, toned, pretty-boy Asain. 28, 5'9", 140#. Pgr 807-7697 ^{E13}

Hot top, 6'1", 180#. **GDLKG, ITALIAN GUY** Phat 9" Out only. Dave 267-3305. ^{E13}

GREAT LOAD

Muscular workout body chest hair, thick 81/2" cut, smooth low hangers 5'11" 170#, 27yo, ready top stud. Well qualified to satisfy, discreet, uncomplicated. In/out \$100 knockout **IN SF 415-629-0003** ^{E12}

FINE FEATURED REDHEAD

Meaty, hairy legs and long torso = a sensual 6'4". \$100 out. 709-0787. ^{E12}

HARD HOT VERSILE TOP

Attr., muscular stud! Thick and well hung, for fantasy, pleasure & fetish. 270-7495. ^{E12}

JAKE

Back in town after 1 yr. 5'10", 170#, 8x6, uninhibited. Into most scenes. Page # 709-0338. ^{E12}

SURFER BOY!

Fresh from LA. Jolla, 91/2" thick. Let's party!! (415) 224-5384. ^{E12}

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Lean muscular 5'10", 155#, 8 thick, hard inches, shaved head, bluegreen eyes, most scenes. Pgr. # 406-2937 Johnny. ^{E12}

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Smooth Buzz Cut **XAVIER 19 YO, 8 INCHES** 5'10", swimmers build. S.F., East B. Pgr# 510-281-3128. ^{E12}

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PORN STAR

In town, 13th-17th. No drugs. Escort: 213-218-3328. ^{E12}

Versatile with A sharp edge. 26 yo. tall, lean, well hung, playful. Affectionate. 24hrs 245-3916. ^{E12}

Hot, blond stripper-kinky-leather top. Nick 338-9024 \$100 all scenes. ^{E12}

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CMT, Grad student. Safe, sensual.

PROSTATE MASSAGE Relieve tension! 487-7600. ^{E12}

E. Bay stud masc, hung, athletic with bubblebutt. Marsh \$100.510-7630683 ^{E12}

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Hot Puerto Rican/Spanish boy. 22yo, 5'8", 138#, 8" hung & thick. Defined build, whot round butt. Rodrigo 415-449-7139 ^{E12}

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Treat yourself to an everlasting good time w/25yo hunk! Slender, smooth, muscular, perfect ass! Open minded-into most scenes. Call only when your ready for the best! Serious calls only 24hrs In/out Travel.Home 399-9144 pager 605-3754. ^{E12}

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SENSUAL LATINO

5'5", brn eye, hair, friendly, cuddles, top, 8in, cut, thick, gives erotic massage... **PGR/ANDY/650-599-7862** ^{E14}

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WELL MUSCLED

WELL HUNG, 25YO SMOOTH ITALIAN MUSCULINE, HANDSOME, FUN, PGR#245-7930 OUT ^{E12}

Black wellhung, beautiful, 10x61/2 Out calls only 10am-11pm m-f 24hrs S&S. Pager 210-0426 Ray ^{E12}

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24, 5'11", 170#, brown/hazel **HOT TOP** Masculine, handsome, worth it! Jason Pgr VM 415-208-6499 Out ^{E11}

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Let me light your fire, 792-8388 **ASIAN YOUTH** ^{E11}

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EXTREMELY HOT BOY! Hugely hung (10") for real. Awesome body. Call now 207-7936 ^{E11}

BLACK ANGEL! 6'1", 180#, solid muscle, hung 8" top Striptease, J/O, out only, hotels ok Evenings & wknds Anthony 708-3555 ^{E11}

Leather muscle dad. Sadist, ws, ff, w/big one, w/pump to make it bigger 4 year viewing & dining pleasure Derek www.mastervu.com pgr 5389588 ^{E11}

SHAVED HEAD CUTIE, TOP Boyish, nice to mean, 207-4786 ^{E12}

ONCE'PON A TIME In a magical city there lived a li'l butch boy named Nick 5'3" (Some have seen pictures of him!) Out only VM/Pgr 280-8049 Imagine ^{E11}

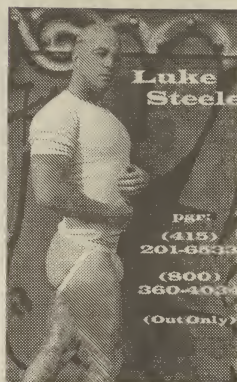
Big Jack 8x5, 6ft, 195#, br/bl. Out/hotel, eve/weekends, \$100 S.F./South Bay Pgr: 408-774-9937 ^{E12}

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31,6'2",200#,brown/blue,cleancut

Affectionate, sexy, hungry. Nice
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service and attitude. 9am to 9pm
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BOTTOM LATINO BOY

By goodlooking 26yo, very friendly
5'6",150#, always horny \$80 in,
\$100 out every day after 3 pm.
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Hung like a horse. Smooth 6'1",
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Cute, sexy, out only.
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21YO,6',168# DROP DEAD-GORGEOUS

Very physical, contact Joe.
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9X6 24-HOURS

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Goatee, 10". Mark Pgr 210-0655

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JEFF 997-7307

26YO HUNG 10X7

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39yo, 6'1", 195#,
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- 7" Uncut.

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Have equipment and playspace
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Scent marking, gut 2 gut, guzzling.
29y, buff, 8". Shaved head man. Dog
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Friendly, versatile. Wayne 647-5274

XXX video photos. 25 yo white 8"
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23yo,150#. Br/br, swimmers build,
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28yo, 5'7", 140#

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21 yr old boy, swimmer's build Chis-
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Beautiful yummy ass! 150 lbs. Black
hair, brn eyes, Outcalls/Hotels Rex
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only. Hourly/All night.

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Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung
6'4", 195#, Blond/Blue, Friendly
Page Adam 24 Hours 207-8089

MIKE, 30,5'10" 200#,Bld/Blu
Clean-cut Muscle Hunk
In/Out-\$100(415) 863-8932

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 • JIM 267-1817

SEXY&GORGEOUS

Very handsome&masculine dark hair
green eyes well equipped and know
how to use it!! Amazin' butt, versa-
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Looking for an escort that treats you
right then I'm your guy. Friendly
passionate regular guy 8XX thick.
Very hard inches for your pleasure.
Call David 902-3841

Italian stud, black hair brn eyes
6ft, swimmer's build, defined chest &
legs, bedroom eyes, beautiful ass,
8" uncut. Outcalls Pref/hotels. Gino
22, model looks Hourly/all night
Don't you want it now! 436-0402VM

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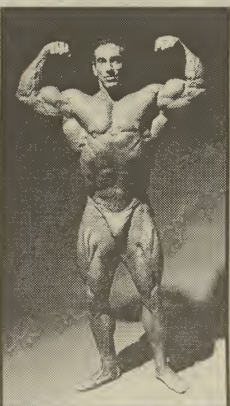
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220lbs,6'1",52ch,21"A,
26 years.
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Clean cut 6'3" 185# blond/blu
hairy well equipped and great balls
Call Chase 24hrs Pgr 280-1651

HIRED MAN

Handsome hung versatile tall hairy
Luke*24 hrs*Pgr 605-4013/Visa/MC

Sexy, friendly, muscled top. I'm 29
with a hard, defined gymnast's body,
broad shoulders, great chest, popping
biceps, handsome face, 8 hard, sweet
inches offering hot, sensual, intimate
times with mutual respect and no at-
titude. \$120 Jeff 679-8487 vm/pgr.

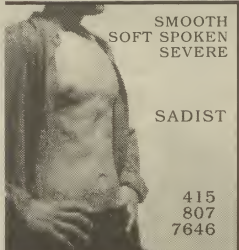
BLACK B/B BOTTOM

Derrick 120/In 130/Out
313-7127 Vm/Pgr.

10.5 X 7.5



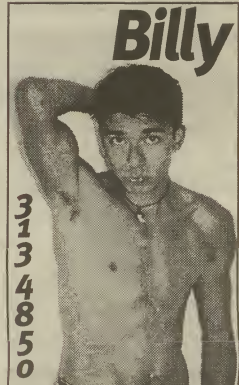
46 6'3 205
415.224.9382



SMOOTH
SOFT SPOKEN
SEVERE

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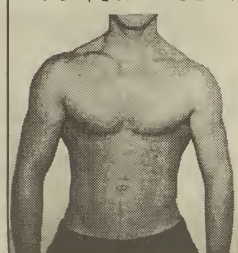
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 Bare man.Srvc3136072
 Handsome tight muscular body.

EROTIC

21 yr old boy, swimmer's build Chiseled face, olive complexion, 6ft, Defined chest & legs, 8" thick uncut Beautiful yummy ass! 150 lbs. Black hair, brn eyes, Outcalls/Hotels Rex 731-4168 Serious, generous callers only. Hourly/All night.

ALL AMERICAN MALE

Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung 6'4", 195#, Blond/Blue, Friendly Page Adam 24 Hours 207-8089

MIKE, 30, 5'10" 200#, Bld/Blu Clean-cut Muscle Hunk In/Out-\$100(415) 863-8932

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

ASIAN TOP

\$80/\$100 • JIM 267-1817

SEXY&GORGEOUS

Very handsome&masculine dark hair green eyes well equipped and know how to use it!! Amazin' butt, versatile & very friendly Pgr 207-6117

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Sexy, exquisite, exclusive gorgeous 6ft 150lbs olive complexion Defined lean toned chest 8" thick uncut chiseled face Classy, good conversationalist Dinner date, companion, beautiful Sexy, tight, firm yummy ass! Hotels/Outcalls preferred/\$300&Up Overnight/weekends, Rocky 828-0195 V, MC, AMEX

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Italian stud, black hair brn eyes 6ft, swimmer's build, defined chest & legs, bedroom eyes, beautiful ass, 8" uncut. Outcalls Pref/Hotels. Gino 22, model looks Hourly/all night Don't you want it now! 436-0402VM

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 Big fat tool 487-9566 pgr 678-1005

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HIRED MAN

Handsome hung versatile tall hairy Luke*24 hrs*Pgr 605-4013Visa/MC

Sexy, friendly, muscled top. I'm 29 with a hard, defined gymnast's body, broad shoulders, great chest, popping biceps, handsome face, 8 hard, sweet inches offering hot, sensual, intimate times with mutual respect and no attitude. \$120 Jeff 679-8487 vm/pgr.

Cute guy 5'5, 135#, Nice chest & Arms,hung,smooth,bottom,older men welcome \$50 Donald 351-2034

BLACK B/B BOTTOM

Derrick 120/In 130/Out 313-7127 Vm/Pgr.

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39yo Top,6'1",195#,7"uncut,flattop mustache.Gd lking.Into bondage,S/M W/S,CBT,F/F,most scenes,Beginner? Have playspace & equipment. 3way avail w/porn star Frank Parker Scott (415)790-0902 Pg#. In or out

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26 year old tightbuilt hung top with slender physique, sexy, handsome white boy Joey 752.3844 • 741-5329pgr • In/out

Size 12 Feet

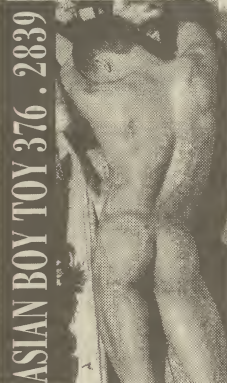
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6'1" 39yrs

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 Very goodlooking, Blond,
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 Bodybuilder
 46" Chest / 32" Waist
 Thick & Well-Endowed
 Outcalls Only
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5'8", brown/brown, 140#, smooth, cleancut, call Chad at 241-9381

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6'3, 220 FIREMAN

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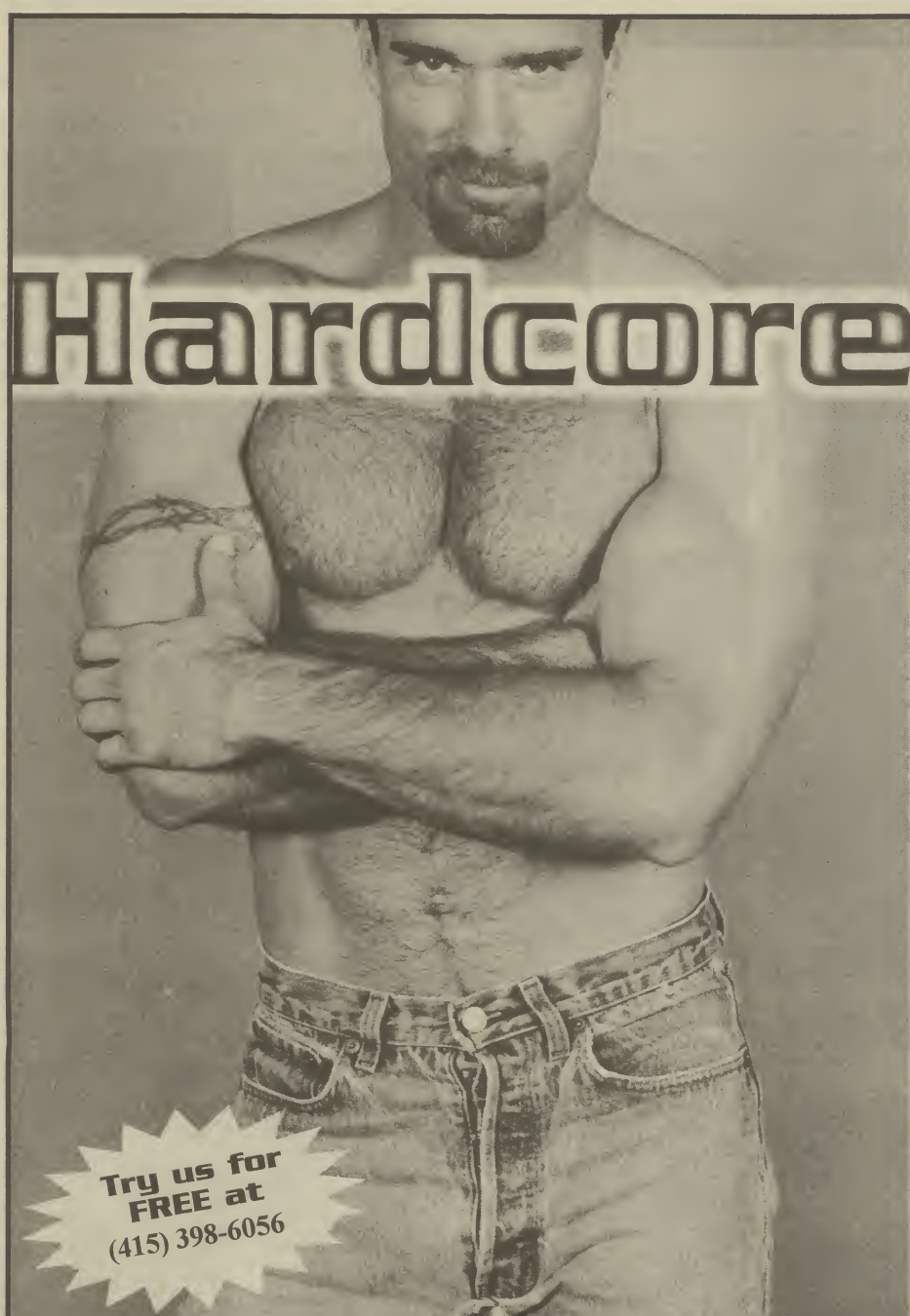
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